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All other notices respecting railway construction, traffic, rates, &c.	Railways.
Openings for port and harbour works and plant and material therefor, dredging, and river improvement works	Harbour works.
Vessels of all kinds (except dredgers) and construction thereof	Ships and shipbuilding.
All other notices respecting ports, steamship services, and waterways	Shipping.
Mineral deposits and production, mining regulations, unmanufactured metals (except as regards certain of the most important minerals, such as coal, iron, mineral oil)	Mining, minerals, and metals.
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Iron ore, and manufactured iron and steel (except structural work, rails, &c.)	Iron and steel.
Small metal goods, tools, cutlery, &c.	Ironmongery and hardware.
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In the Subject Index, tender notices of purely passing interest (which are generally out of date by the time of the publication of the Index) are not entered at all; they may be found under the various countries in the Geographical Index. This is also the case with a large number of commercial enquiries regarding Canada, received through the High Commissioner in London for the Dominion.

Notices of tariff changes and customs regulations are not indexed according to subject, except in the more important cases, owing to the impracticability of giving a list in any way complete of references to each article.

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THE

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The Offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade are at **73, Basinghall Street,** London, E.C.—registered telegraphic address, "**Advantage, London**;" Code, **5th Edition A.B.C.**; telephone number, **12807 Central.** A statement of the objects and work of the Branch will be found on p. 47.

Attention is directed to the **Sample Room** at the above address, the latest additions to which are the following :—

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Register of British firms who may desire to receive **Confidential Information** relative to openings for trade 47

List of **Trade Enquiry Offices** in London of the Self-Governing Dominions 48

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OPENINGS FOR BRITISH TRADE.

BRITISH INDIA.

Laminated Bearing Springs; Wheels and Axles.

The Secretary of State for India in Council invites tenders for the supply of (1) laminated bearing springs, and (2) wheels and axles. The conditions of contract may be obtained on application to the Director-General of Stores, India Office, Whitehall, London, S.W., and tenders are to be delivered at that office by 2 p.m. on 10th April. Copies of the specifications, &c. may be seen by British makers at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C. (7,730.)

Openings for British Trade.

BRITISH INDIA—*continued.*

Lubricating Oil.

"Indian Engineering" (Calcutta) of 9th March notifies that the North Western Railway Company are prepared to receive tenders for the supply and delivery of 540 tons of lubricating oil for axles of rolling stock. Tenders will be received, up to noon on 11th June, by the Manager, North Western Railway Company, Naulakha, Lahore. A sample of not less than one Imperial gallon of the oil it is proposed to supply must be forwarded to the Chief Storekeeper, North Western Railway, Naulakha, Lahore, from whom conditions of contract and forms of tender may be obtained on payment of Rs. 5 (6s. 8d.). *A deposit of Rs.* 500 (£33 6*s.* 8*d.*) *is required with each tender.*

Steel Material; Wrought Iron.

The East Indian Railway Company are prepared to receive tenders for the supply and delivery of (1) mild steel material, and (2) wrought iron, in accordance with the specifications, which may be seen at the Company's Offices, Nicholas Lane, London, E.C. Tenders are to be sent to the Secretary, at the above address, marked "Tender for Steel Material," or as the case may be, not later than noon on 10th April. The charge for the specifications in the case of (1) is £1 1s., and of (2) 10s. 6d., which will not be returned.

CANADA.

Reports have been received from the office of H.M. Trade Commissioner for Canada and from the Imperial Trade Correspondent at Toronto notifying the formation of companies and the inception of enterprises, which may afford opportunities to British traders, as follows:—

Automobiles, Aeroplanes, Agricultural Implements, &c., and Plant for Making; Electrical Machinery.

A company has been formed with a capital of 500,000 dols. (about £103,000) to manufacture and deal in automobiles, cycles, motors, aeroplanes, boats, agricultural implements, and carriages, and to deal in electrical machinery. *See Note.*† (7,481.)

Heating Apparatus and Plant for Making.

A company has been formed with a capital of 500,000 dols. (about £103,000) to manufacture and deal in all kinds of heating apparatus and appliances, &c. *See Note.*† (7,485)

Pottery, Earthenware, &c., and Plant for Making; Quarrying Plant.

A company has been formed with a capital of 1,000,000 dols. (about £205,500) to manufacture, import, and deal in bricks, tiles, pipes, pottery, earthenware, china, &c.; and to acquire and work quarries. *See Note.*† (7,486.)

Building Material.

A company has been formed with a capital of 300,000 dols. (about £61,700) to carry on the business of contractors and builders. *See Note.*† (7,487.)

Openings for British Trade.

CANADA—*continued.*

Water and Gas Works Plant and Supplies; Plant for Making such.

A company has been formed with a capital of 300,000 dols. (about £61,700) to manufacture and deal in supplies for water and gas works, plumbing and steam supplies, and articles of brass, steel, and other metals. *See Note.*†

(7,856.)

Plant for Making Ornamental Metal.

A company in Canada propose to increase their capital and to erect new plant for the manufacture of ornamental iron, bronze, and art metal. *See Note.*† (7,861).

Motor Omnibuses.

Adverting to the notice on p. 554 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 14th March relative to the establishment of motor omnibus services in Toronto, it is notified that a British firm propose shortly to work a line of motor omnibuses at that place. *See Note.*† (7,259.)

Material and Equipment for Hospital; Fire Station Equipment.

A municipality in Ontario is making application to the Provincial Legislature for authority to borrow 45,000 dols. (about £9,200) to be expended on the erection of a hospital, and 30,000 dols. (about £6,160) for a new fire station, and for the purchase of fire engines and other fire appliances. *See Note.*†

(7,099.)

Water Supply Plant; Electric Lighting Plant, &c.; Motor Fire Wagon.

Another Ontario municipality proposes to obtain authority from the Provincial Legislature to borrow (1) 61,000 dols. (about £12,500) to be expended on additional pumping plant and apparatus, water main extensions and workshops, (2) 66,900 dols. (about £13,800) for extensions to electric lighting plant, purchase of motors and other apparatus, and (3) 18,000 dols. (about £3,700) for the purchase of a truck and automobile hose wagon for the Fire Department. *See Note.*†

(7,100.)

Note.†—Names and addresses in connection with each of the foregoing notices may be obtained by British manufacturers and contractors on application to the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C.

Breakwater and Quay Construction Material; Dredging Plant.

Adverting to the notice on p. 650 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 29th June, 1911, relative to proposed harbour works at St. John, New Brunswick, the Board o Trade are notified, through the Colonial Office, that the Canadian Department of Public Works have accepted a tender for the execution of the following works in Courtenay Bay to form a dry dock of the first class:—(1) The construction of a breakwater 4,570 ft. in length;

Openings for British Trade.

CANADA—*continued.*

(2) the dredging of a channel about 6,800 ft. in length, 500 ft. in width at bottom, and to a depth of 32 ft. below low water; (3) the dredging of a basin to a depth of 32 ft. below water; (4) the construction of about 4,890 ft. of quay walls; (5) the filling-in of an area of approximately 28 acres. (H. 4,310.)

✠ ✠ ✠ ✠ ✠

Commercial Enquiries.

The following commercial enquiries have been received at the **Offices of the High Commissioner for Canada, 17, Victoria Street, London, S.W.**, whence further information regarding them may be obtained:—

HOME ENQUIRIES.

A North of England company desire to extend the export of their **pickles** and **sauces** to Canada, and would like to be placed in communication with high-class wholesale grocers in each of the large cities of Canada.

A London firm are in the market for supplies of **corn flour**, and would like to get into touch with millers in Canada.

A Liverpool firm desire to secure **agencies of Canadian produce exporters.**

CANADIAN ENQUIRIES.

A Toronto firm, stated to have a good opening for **gum shellac**, desire to get into communication with English merchants able to ship supplies.

A Vancouver correspondent makes enquiry for the names of United Kingdom firms manufacturing **machinery for making wire nails, nuts, bolts, and rivets.**

A Toronto company desire to get into communication with producers in the United Kingdom of **sulphate of ammonia, silicate of soda, soap oil, borax, caustic soda** and **soda ash.**

A Montreal firm, stated to have thirty years' connection with machinery buyers in Canada, desire to secure the representation of United Kingdom manufacturers of **woodworking and ironworking machinery.**

SOUTH AFRICAN ENQUIRY.

A South African correspondent now in London would like to secure the representation in that country of Canadian exporters of **cereals and cereal food products; canned salmon and lobster; apples and other fruits; wood manufactures; dairy produce; bacon and ham; hops, &c.**; for all of which he states a large market exists in South Africa.

☞ **Note.—For further information regarding any of the foregoing enquiries, application should be made to the High Commissioner for Canada, 17, Victoria Street, London, S.W.**

✠ ✠ ✠ ✠ ✠

Openings for British Trade.

CANADA—*continued.*

The following commercial enquiries have been received at the **Canadian Government City Trade Branch, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C.**, whence further information regarding them may be obtained:—

HOME ENQUIRIES.

A Leicester firm manufacturing men's, women's, and children's **boots**, and also **slippers** and **leggings** are desirous of appointing resident Canadian agents.

A London company would like to get into communication with a reliable firm of engineers in Canada who could introduce and sell their special **oil extraction plant.**

CANADIAN ENQUIRIES.

A Montreal company, whose operations cover the whole of Canada, are interested in **articles pertaining to lighting**, and ask to be placed in communication with United Kingdom manufacturers of such goods.

A wholesale grocery broker in Toronto, whose travellers cover Canada between Ottawa and the Pacific Coast, and who already represents two United Kingdom firms, seeks additional agencies in **general and fancy groceries, chemicals, drugs,** &c.

A Montreal manufacturers' agent covering Eastern Canada asks to be placed in touch with United Kingdom manufacturers of goods saleable to the **wholesale dry goods trade**, such as ladies' and gentlemen's **clothing, linens, ducks, canvas,** and more particularly **cotton and mohair sleeve linings.** United Kingdom references.

A consulting engineer in Vancouver, who specialises in the examination and development of Canadian **coal** lands, would like to get into touch with persons to whom his services would be of use.

☞ **Note.—For further information regarding any of the above, application should be made to the Canadian Government City Trade Branch, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C.**

* * * * *

Commercial Enquiry.

A British firm are desirous of appointing agents throughout Canada for an improved type of rotary horse broom, tar macadam road-making machinery, and sewage purification plant. Communication in this connection should be sent to the Secretary, London Chamber of Commerce, Oxford Court, Cannon Street, E.C. (7,709.)

AUSTRALIA.

H.M. Trade Commissioner for Australia (Mr. C. Hamilton Wickes) reports that tenders will be received as follows:—

Pencils; Telegraph and Telephone Material.

1. At the office of the Deputy Postmaster-General, Melbourne, up to 3 p.m. on 28th May, for the supply and delivery of 181 gross of *pencils.* (Schedule No. 683.)

2. At the office of the Deputy Postmaster-General, Sydney, up to 2.30 p.m. on 10th April,* for the supply and delivery of 17 miles

* It will be observed that the time for the receipt of tenders is limited, and therefore this intimation will be of use only to firms having agents in Australia who can be instructed by cable.

Openings for British Trade.

AUSTRALIA—*continued.*

50 chains of *lead-covered, paper-insulated telegraph cable.* (Schedule No. 163.)

3. At the office of the Deputy Postmaster-General, Hobart, up to noon on 10th June, for the supply and delivery of 6 miles of *paper-insulated, lead-covered, telephone cable* (Schedule No. 38); *glassware for batteries and battery material* (Schedule No. 39); *tape, ink, and oil for telegraph instruments* (Schedule No. 40); *common battery telephones and parts* (Schedule No. 41); *insulators and parts* (Schedule No. 42); *iron, copper and bronze wire, copper tapes and binders, and jointing sleeves* (Schedule No. 44); *wire and cable* (Schedule No. 45).

A deposit of 5 per cent. on the first £1,000, and of 2½ per cent. on the amount above that sum, is required with each tender. Local representation is necessary.

For copies of the specifications and forms of tender, application should be made to the High Commissioner in London for the Commonwealth of Australia, 72, Victoria Street, S.W., where also preliminary deposits may be paid. Copies of the specifications and forms of tender may be seen by British manufacturers at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C. (7,714; 7,717.)

Steel Rails and Fishplates.

The "Commonwealth Gazette" of 24th February notifies that tenders are invited by the Australian Government for the supply of 80 lbs. and 60 lbs. steel rails and fishplates, required for the construction of the Kalgoorlie-Port Augusta Railway. Tenders will be received, up to noon on 29th May, by the "Secretary, Department of Home Affairs, Melbourne." Specifications and forms of tenders may be obtained at the offices of the High Commissioner for the Commonwealth of Australia, 72, Victoria Street, London, S.W., on payment of £1 1s., and an additional charge of 5s. for drawings.

Plant and Material for Construction of Reservoir, &c.

Adverting to the notice on p. 229 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 2nd February, 1911, relative to the utilisation of the Murray river for navigation and irrigation purposes, the "Bulletin" of the South Australian Intelligence Bureau of 19th February states that an agreement has been signed by the Premiers of South Australia, Victoria, and New South Wales, which, subject to ratification by the Parliaments of the three States, authorises the Government of South Australia to construct storage works at Lake Victoria, which is situated in New South Wales, 14 miles from the South Australian boundary. The agreement also contains provisions for the transfer of the site of the proposed works from New South Wales to South Australian territory.

It is estimated that the reservoir which will result from the improvement of Lake Victoria will have a storage capacity of 1,500 million cubic feet, and will approximately cover an area of 30,000 acres. There will be two weirs and locks associated with the reservoir, the exact sites of which are not yet determined.

Openings for British Trade.

NEW ZEALAND.

Cotton Sheetings, Drapery, Builders' Requisites, Hardware, Groceries, Oilman's Stores, Cutlery, Tools, Electrical Goods, &c.

H.M. Trade Commissioner for New Zealand (Mr. W. G. Wickham) has furnished a list of firms desiring the representation of British manufacturers in various classes of goods, including *cotton sheetings, drapery, building materials and builders' requisites, hardware, groceries, oilman's stores, stationery, cutlery and tools, electrical goods, musical instruments, office novelties, brushware, picture mouldings, paperhangings, drugs and pharmaceutical preparations, galvanised iron wire, tinplate, &c.*

The names and addresses of the firms, together with particulars of the respective agencies required, may be obtained by British manufacturers on application to the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C.

(7,723.)

Cotton and Woollen Piece Goods; Millinery; Hosiery; Boots.

H.M. Trade Commissioner also notifies that a gentleman, who for many years was manager of large retail stores at Wellington, and who is a member of the Wellington Chamber of Commerce, is on his way to England, with a view to obtaining agencies in New Zealand for British manufacturers of *cotton and woollen piece goods, millinery, hosiery and boots.*

The name of the enquirer and his Bank reference may be obtained by British manufacturers on application to the Commercial Intelligence Branch, as above. (7,720.)

SOUTH AFRICA.

Electric Lifts.

With reference to the notice on p. 613 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 21st March relative to a call for tenders by the South African Public Works Department for the supply and erection of two electric passenger lifts for the new Law Courts at Cape Town, it is notified that a copy of the specification has now been received from H.M. Trade Commissioner for South Africa (Mr. R. Sothern Holland). Sealed tenders will be received by the Chairman of the Tender Board, P.O. Box, 371, Pretoria, up to noon on 15th May.

The specification may be seen by British makers at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C. (7,857.)

SOUTHERN NIGERIA.

Pumping Machinery.

The Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade is notified that the Crown Agents for the Colonies, acting on behalf of the Government of Southern Nigeria, are prepared to receive tenders for the manufacture and delivery f.o.b. Liverpool of the following machinery:—

Four Lancashire boilers; two well pumps, each with a capacity of 5,000 gallons per minute; two triple-expansion surface condensing vertical engines for working well pumps; three triple-expansion surface condensing vertical engines and pumps, each with a capacity

Openings for British Trade.

of 1,667 gallons per minute, together with economiser, condensers, steam and water piping, feed pumps, air pumps, and all accessories.

Tenders, marked "Tender for Pumping Machinery," will be received by the Crown Agents for the Colonies, Whitehall Gardens, London, S.W., up to noon on 10th May. Copies of the specifications and plans may be obtained from the same address on payment of a deposit of £10, returnable on receipt of a *bonâ fide* tender.

EGYPT.

General Stores for Railway Shops.

H.M. Consul at Cairo (Mr. A. D. Alban) reports that tenders* are invited by the Egyptian State Railways and Telegraphs Administration for the supply and delivery, during three years, of sundry articles, including the following:—*Soda, resin, borax, starch, black lead, cotton lamp wick, tools, copper rivets, asbestos millboards, emery cloth, nails.* Sealed tenders, addressed to the General Manager, Egyptian State Railways and Telegraphs, Cairo, will be received up to 10 a.m. on 8th May. The tenderer must forward by the same date to the Superintendent of Stores, Egyptian State Railways and Telegraphs, Cairo, samples of the articles proposed to be supplied. Standard samples can be inspected at the offices of the Inspecting Engineer in London (Mr. A. L. Webb, C.M.G.), Queen Anne's Chambers, Broadway, Westminster, S.W. *A deposit of* 5 *per cent. of the value of the offer, but not to exceed* £E 500, *is required with each tender, to be increased by the successful tenderer to* 10 *per cent. of the value of the order for one year's supply.*

Copies of the specification, containing form of tender, may be purchased, price 4s. each, from Mr. A. L. Webb, as above. A copy may be seen by British manufacturers at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C.

(7,553.)

Uniform Clothing.

Tenders* are also invited by the Egyptian State Railways and Telegraphs Administration for the supply, during the winter 1912–3, or alternatively the three years 1912–3 to 1914–5, of winter clothing (uniforms and overcoats). Sealed tenders, addressed to the General Manager, Egyptian State Railways and Telegraphs, Cairo, will be received by him up to 10 a.m. on 3rd May. The tenderer must forward by the same date to the Superintendent of Stores, Egyptian State Railways, Boulac, Cairo, samples (of not less than one lineal yard) of the kinds of cloth which he proposes to supply. *A deposit of* 5 *per cent. of the value of the offer for one year's supply is required with each tender, to be increased by the successful tenderer to* 10 *per cent. of the accepted contract price.*

Copies of the specification, containing form of tender, may be purchased, price 2s. each, from Mr. A. L. Webb, C.M.G., Queen Anne's Chambers, Broadway, Westminster, London, S.W., where also the Administration's standard specimens may be seen. A copy may be seen by British manufacturers and contractors at the Commercial Intelligence Branch, as above.

(7,910.)

* Domicile (legal) in Egypt is necessary for the contractor. For conditions under which temporary (legal) domicile may be obtained by British firms at the British Consulate at Cairo, see p. 408 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 4th March, 1909, and p. 176 of the issue of 26th January, 1911.

Openings for British Trade.

EGYPT—*continued.*

Copper Bowls; Plaited Indian Coco Fibre.

H.M. Consul further reports that tenders are invited by the Egyptian Ministry of the Interior for the supply to the Prisons Department of (1) 3,000 round copper food bowls and (2) 450 kantars (about 20 tons) of plaited Indian coco fibre. Tenders, made out on stamped paper (obtainable from Mr. A. L. Webb, C.M.G., as above), will be received by the Inspector General of Prisons, Ministry of the Interior, Cairo, up to noon on 9th May. *A deposit of* £E 20 *in the case of* (1) *and* £E 50 *in the case of* (2) *must accompany each tender.*

It is to be noted that in the case of contracts with the Egyptian Ministry of the Interior it is necessary to have a responsible agent in Egypt.

Copies of the specifications, together with drawings in the case of (1), and a sample in the case of (2), may be seen by British manufacturers at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C. (7,911.)

Ice-making Plant.

H.M. Consul also reports that tenders are invited for the supply to the Egyptian Coast Guard Administration of a plant capable of making 120 lbs. of ice per day of 12 hours. Tenders on the proper form should be sent in sealed envelopes, marked "Tender for Ice-making Plant," to the Director of Stores, Coast Guard Administration, Alexandria, by whom they will be received up to noon on 30th April. *A provisional deposit equal to 2 per cent. of the total value of the offer must accompany each tender, to be increased by the successful tenderer to 10 per cent. of the accepted contract price. The tenderer must be a person residing in Egypt, or must have a representative in Egypt.*

A copy of the specification, &c. may be seen by British makers at the Commercial Intelligence Branch, as above. (7,582.)

RUSSIA.

Wireless Telegraph Material.

With reference to the notice on p. 554 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 14th December relative to the establishment of wireless telegraph stations in Russia, the "Commercial Gazette" (St. Petersburg) of 24th March states that the Russian Post and Telegraph Department have applied to the Imperial Duma for authority to expend a sum of 100,000 roubles (about £10,500) for the purpose of erecting four wireless telegraph stations on the coasts of the White Sea and Kara Sea, for the purpose of facilitating commercial communication between Western Siberia and Western Europe across the Arctic Ocean.

Harbour Works.

The same issue of the "Gazette" states that the Ministry of Trade and Commerce have submitted to the Duma a programme for the carrying out of an extensive scheme of improvements and extensions at Russian maritime ports. The amount earmarked for this purpose is put at 90,000,000 roubles (about £9,500,000), which it is proposed to expend over a period of five years. (X. 4,825.)

Openings for British Trade.

RUSSIA—*continued.*

Electric Lighting Plant.

The "Nachrichten für Handel und Industrie" (Berlin) of 15th March states, on the authority of the German Consul at Tiflis, that the municipal authorities of Mosdok (Tereksian Cossacks) are offering a concession for supplying the town with electric light. Further particulars are to be obtained from the "Conseil Municipal," Mosdok.

Dredging Plant. See notice on p. 34.

NORWAY.

Bed Plates; Rolled Steel Plates.

The British Acting Consul at Christiania (Mr. H. C. Dick) reports that tenders* are invited by the Norwegian State Railway Authorities for the supply and delivery of 3,070 bed plates and rolled plates of mild steel. Sealed tenders will be received at "Styrelsens Expeditionskontor, Statsbanerne," Christiania, up to 3 p.m. on 19th April.

Local representation by a resident agent (not necessarily a Norwegian) is required.

A copy of the specification and conditions of tender (in Norwegian), together with drawings, may be seen by British makers at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C. (7,912.)

Telegraph Materials.

The British Acting Consul also reports that tenders* are invited by the Norwegian State Railway Authorities for the supply and delivery of 500 kilogs. of *sal-ammoniac*, 600 kilogs. of *manganese*, 200 kilogs. of *retort charcoal*, 5,000 metres of *rubber-insulated copper wire*, 8,000 metres of *vulcanised copper cable*, 6,000 metres of *bell wire*, and 3,000 sticks of *zinc* for electric batteries. Sealed tenders will be received at "Styrelsens Expeditionskontor, Statsbanerne," Christiania, up to 3 p.m. on 19th April. *Local representation by a resident agent (not necessarily a Norwegian) is required.*

Copies of the specifications and conditions (in Norwegian) may be seen by British manufacturers at the Commercial Intelligence Branch, as above. (7,960.)

NETHERLANDS.

The following information is from the report by H.M. Consul at Amsterdam (Mr. W. A. Churchill) on the trade of that district in 1911, which will shortly be issued:—

Building and Furnishing Material and Equipment; Sanitation.

The building trade was active during 1911, and is expected to continue so during the next two or three years; in fact there has never before been so much building going on in Amsterdam at one time. A new Stock Exchange, large shops, offices and residential buildings are in course of erection, and there is a project to build a new royal palace. This activity will

* It should be noted that in all Norwegian Government contracts a preference of from 10 to 15 per cent. (sometimes more) is given to Norwegian manufacturers.

Openings for British Trade.

produce a demand for considerable quantities of building materials, furniture, sanitary engineering, heating, and illuminating appliances, &c.

SPAIN.

Railway Construction.

The "Gaceta de Madrid" of 29th March notifies that Don Félix Gómez Escolar has applied to the General Directorate of Public Works for a concession for the construction and working of a secondary railway from Logroño to Torrecilla de Cameros.

Hydro-Electric Plant.

The same issue of the "Gaceta" announces that two concessions have been granted to Dr. Dietrich Cunze Hirsemann to utilise at various points the waters of the river Noguera Ribagorzana, in the Province of Lérida, for the purpose of generating electric energy.

PORTUGAL.

Electric Lighting Plant.

The "Nachrichten für Handel und Industrie" (Berlin) of 15th March states that the Lisbon municipal authorities have decided to set up a central electric generating station for the purpose of supplying the city with electric light, and to lay the necessary subterranean cable. Tenders will be invited within a month.

ITALY.

Railway Material.

The "Gazetta Ufficiale" of 28th March notifies that tenders will be opened on 30th April at the offices of the "Ferrovie dello Stato," Rome, for the construction of the seventh section (about three miles long) of the railway between Sant' Arcangelo and San Leo. The cost of the work, including the erection of stations, the laying of telegraph lines, &c., is put at 2,616,000 lire (£104,640).

Although this contract will doubtless be awarded to an Italian firm, nevertheless the carrying out of the work may involve the purchase of some materials out of Italy.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY (BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA).

Timber-Felling Plant.

H.M. Consul at Sarajevo (Mr. F. G. Freeman) reports that tenders are invited for the purchase of timber-felling rights in the forest area of Ozren, situated in the administrative districts of Gracanica and Maglaj. Sealed tenders will be received, up to 11 a.m. on 2nd May, at "Forstdirektion, Landesregierung," Sarajevo, Bosnia. *A deposit of* 3,800 *kronen* (*about* £158) *is required with each tender. Local representation is advisable.* Further information may be obtained at the offices of the "Forstdirektion," at the above-mentioned address.

Although the foregoing contract will in all probability be awarded to a local firm, nevertheless the carrying out of the work may involve the purchase of some materials out of Austria-Hungary. (7,554.)

Openings for British Trade.

ROUMANIA.

Railway Construction and Plant.

The "Zentral-Anzeiger für das öffentliche Lieferungswesen" (Vienna) of 31st March notifies that tenders will be opened on 15th April at the office of the "Chemins de Fer de l'Etat," Bucharest, for the construction of a railway from Oborn to Pantelimon. The cost of the work is estimated at 390,000 francs (£15,600).

It is understood that the above competition is limited to firms who may be invited to tender. Local representation is practically necessary.

Cargo Boats.

The "Nachrichten für Handel und Industrie" (Berlin) of 15th March notifies that it is the intention of the Roumanian Minister of Public Works to bring in a Bill providing for an expenditure of 6,000,000 francs (£240,000) for the acquisition of two cargo boats.

Library Building and Fittings.

The same issue of the "Nachrichten" announces, on the authority of the German Consul at Bucharest, that a building is to be erected at that place for a large public library. It will contain book space for one million volumes, and accommodation for 100 ordinary readers and 30 students. It is desired that the building should be erected as soon as possible; consequently, adds the Consul, no time will be lost in inviting tenders. *The contract will include heating, lighting, ventilation arrangements, &c.*

BULGARIA.

Electrical Installation.

The "Nachrichten für Handel und Industrie" (Berlin) of 15th March announces that a Bill has been submitted to the Bulgarian Legislature providing for an electrical installation at the "Pernik" State Colliery. The cost of the installation is estimated at 80,000 francs (£3,200).

Leather and Leather Goods.

The same issue of the "Nachrichten" states that the Bulgarian Ministry of War have appointed a Committee to draw up specifications and tender forms for the supply of leather and leather goods required for the Bulgarian troops.

Railway Construction.

The "Frankfurter Zeitung" of 24th March announces that a Bill has been submitted to the Bulgarian Legislature providing for the commencement of operations this spring on the construction of the following railways:—Stanimaka - Krumovo - Philippopolis, Somovit - Nikopolis, and a military line from Sofia to the Arsenal at the foot of the Vitosch. Further, it is proposed to put out to contract the construction of a line from Tolovo to Kazanlik. (X. 5,848.)

Openings for British Trade.

TURKEY.

Clinical Thermometers.

H.M. Consul-General at Constantinople (Mr. H. C. A. Eyres) reports that tenders are invited by the Turkish Ministry of War for the supply of 10,000 clinical thermometers. Tenders, accompanied by a specimen thermometer, will be received up to 13th April at the "Administration Sanitaire du Ministère de la Guerre," Constantinople. *See Note.*†

Cotton Thread; Boots.

H.M. Consul-General also reports that tenders are invited by the Turkish Ministry of War for the supply of 3,000 gross of reels of khaki coloured cotton, 3,000 gross of reels of grey cotton, and 30,000 to 40,000 pairs of boots for the 6th Army Corps. Tenders will be received at the "Intendance Générale, Ministère de la Guerre," Constantinople, up to 11th April. *See Note.*† (7,959.)

Note.† *Local representation is practically indispensable in the case of Turkish Government contracts.* A list of British commission agents established in Constantinople may be obtained by British firms on application to the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C. (7,764.)

MOROCCO.

Building Material; Laboratory Equipment, &c.

H.M. Consul-General at Tangier (Mr. H. E. White, C.M.G.) reports that the French Government have now granted a sum of 250,000 francs (£10,000) for completing the construction and fitting up of a Pasteur Institute at Tangier which was commenced some time ago, but was left unfinished through lack of funds. The building is to be fitted up with laboratories for carrying on experiments and making analyses in all branches of agriculture, mineralogy, &c., as well as in purely medical work, preparation of serums, &c. (7,365.)

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Electric Tramway Cars.

H.M. Consul-General at San Francisco (Mr. A. C. Ross, C.B.) reports that tenders, on the proper forms, will be received at the office of the Board of Public Works, San Francisco, up to 3 p.m. on 8th May, for the supply and delivery of 43 tramway cars for the Geary Street municipal tramway. *A deposit of* 10 *per cent. of the value of the contract must accompany each tender.* Specifications and forms of tender may be obtained on application to the City Engineer, San Francisco.

A copy of the specification and form of tender, together with drawings, may be seen by British manufacturers at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C. (7,682.)

Openings for British Trade.

MEXICO.

Railway Material; Drainage Works.

H.M. Consul-General at Mexico City (Mr. C. E. W. Stringer) reports announcements appearing in the local press to the following effect:—

(1) A concession has been granted by the Mexican Government to the A. B. Adams Incorporated Co. for the construction of a railway between the States of Puebla and Oaxaca, to connect the city of Puebla and Lake Chacahua on the Pacific Coast.

(2) The concession granted to the National Railways of Mexico for the construction of a railway from Cañitas, passing through Sombrerete and Chalchihuites to Durango, has been modified to allow a branch to be built to Sombrerete.

(3) The Mexican Government have been petitioned by a British subject for permission to drain the Carpintero lake at Tampico. The name of the British subject referred to may be obtained on application to the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C. (7,705.)

Irrigation Plant.

The "Diario Oficial" of 9th March notifies that a concession has been granted to the "Compañía Explotadora de Coahuayana, San Vicente y Anexas" to utilise 11,000 litres of water per second of the river Túxpan or Coahuayana, State of Michoacán, for irrigation purposes. Five years are allowed for the completion of the work. Exemption from customs duty is granted in respect of any material which it may be necessary to import for carrying out the work.

The "Diario" of 12th March publishes the terms of a concession granted to Sr. Manuel Serrato for the utilisation of the river De la Laja, State of Guanajuato, for irrigation purposes. Two years are allowed for completing the work. Exemption from customs duty is granted, as mentioned above.

SAN SALVADOR.

Drainage and Paving Works.

H.M. Consul at San Salvador (Mr. W. E. Coldwell) has forwarded a copy and translation of a decree, dated 14th February last, authorising the Board of Public Works to proceed to the construction in the capital of a new sewerage and drainage system on modern lines, and also recommending that the paving of the city be carried out simultaneously with the construction of the sewers. (7,676.)

BRAZIL.

Tools for Cultivation and Extraction, &c. of Rubber, and for Manufacture of Rubber Goods; Road Making Plant; Railway Construction; River Craft; Coaling Stations; Machinery, &c. for Meat Packing Establishment; Rice, &c. Mill Plant; Fish Curing Plant.

See article on pp. 19–20.

Openings for British Trade.

ARGENTINA.

Irrigation Works Plant.

The "Boletin Oficial" of 23rd February publishes a decree, submitted by the General Directorate of Irrigation, approving the plans drawn up by the engineer, Don José Cantutti, for the construction of an important irrigation canal in the River Negro valley. The canal will be about 19 miles long, reckoned from its junction with the Lake Pellegrini feeding canal. The cost of the work is estimated at 2,400,000 pesos currency (about £210,000).

ARGENTINA—CHILE.

Railway Material.

With reference to the notice on p. 534 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 7th March relative to the projected railway from the Lerma Valley to Huaitiquina on the Chilean frontier and thence to Antofagasta or Chimba, the British Acting Consul at Buenos Aires (Mr. F. G. Rule) has furnished the name and address of the representative in Paris of the French company to whom Señor Carrasco is transferring the concession for the Argentine section of the line.

The name and address referred to may be obtained by British manufacturers on application to the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C. (7,364.)

BOLIVIA.

Brewery Plant; Ice-Making Plant; Electric Lighting Plant.

H.M. Legation at La Paz report that there is an opening for the establishment of a brewery, an ice factory, and an electric lighting plant in a town in Bolivia. There is a large demand for beer, which is at present imported, and ice is only manufactured on a very small scale.

The address to which communications should be sent may be obtained by British manufacturers on application to the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C. (7,054.)

EXHIBITIONS.

ITALY.

Proposed Show Rooms at Genoa for British Goods.

H.M. Commercial Attaché for Italy (Mr. A. P. Bennett) has furnished the following particulars respecting a scheme for the establishment at the port of Genoa of Show Rooms for British goods suitable for importation into Italy:—

Genoa, as is well known, is the principal port in Italy, and one of the most important in the Mediterranean. The harbour is governed by a Board known as the "Consorzio Autonomo del Porto di Genova," which consists of a President, nominated by the Italian Government, and of members nominated by the Chambers of Commerce of Genoa, Milan and Turin, the municipal authorities of Genoa, the port labourers, and other bodies directly interested in the working of the port.

The "Consorzio" is quite independent of any control except that of the Italian Parliament, and administers considerable revenues derived from port dues and other sources.

The present Board, of which the President is Commendatore Ronco, has voted a considerable sum of money for promoting and encouraging the foreign trade of the port. Signor Ronco, with the cordial approval of his colleagues on the Board, proposes to devote a portion of this amount to the establishment of show rooms, for exhibiting both Italian and foreign goods likely to interest Italian importers and exporters. For this purpose two large buildings have been set aside, and these (by arrangement with the Customs Authorities) will be treated as bonded warehouses (porto franco).

One of these buildings is already finished. Both are in a central position in the port, are built of concrete, and consist of ground floor and two floors above.

The President has offered the free use for ten years of the upper floor of the second building, which will measure about 40 metres by 24 (= about 10,000 sq. ft.), to the British Chamber of Commerce for Italy. This floor will be adapted and fitted with steam radiators for heating, and with electric light appliances, at the cost of the "Consorzio," on condition that the British Chamber of Commerce makes its headquarters in the premises, and assists the "Consorzio" in carrying out the scheme.

The Chamber has accepted this offer, and will in due course organise temporary shows of different classes of British goods likely to attract Italian importers.

Entrance to the rooms will be free, and firms invited to exhibit goods will have no expenses beyond the carriage of goods to Genoa, and a nominal charge for the cleaning of show-cases and attendance.

The Chamber will arrange, free of any charge, to take delivery of the goods on arrival, c.i.f. Genoa, unpack and set up in show-cases, insure whilst in the above premises against all risks of fire, and provide an attendant to furnish such information about the goods as may be supplied to the Chamber by the exhibitors.

The Chamber will further undertake that the show-rooms shall be properly advertised in the Italian press, and will send to the Board of

Exhibitions.

Trade and to the British and Colonial trade journals periodical reports regarding the classes of goods most likely to interest Italian importers.

It must be clearly understood that the proposal is *not* to establish sample rooms, but special temporary shows of goods required on the Italian market, *e.g.*, **sanitary appliances, requirements for chemical industries, boots and leather goods, china and glass ware,** &c., &c.

(7,557.)

BRAZIL.

Proposed Triennial Exhibition at Rio de Janeiro of Agricultural Products. See article on pp. 19–20.

ROYAL COMMISSION ON RESOURCES AND TRADE OF THE EMPIRE.

The Board of Trade are notified by the Colonial Office that the King has been pleased to approve of the appointment of the following to be Commissioners to inquire into the Natural Resources and Improvement of Trade of the Empire, in pursuance of the 20th Resolution passed by the Imperial Conference of 1911:—

For the United Kingdom—

The Right Honourable Lord Inchcape of Strathnaver, G.C.M.G., K.C.S.I., K.C.I.E. (to be Chairman of the Commission).
Sir Edgar Vincent, K.C.M.G.
Sir Charles John Owens.
Sir H. Rider Haggard.
Mr. Tom Garnett (of Manchester).
Mr. William Lorimer (of Glasgow).

For the Dominion of Canada—

The Honourable George Eulas Foster, Minister of Trade and Customs.

For the Commonwealth of Australia—

Mr. Donald Campbell, LL.B., formerly a member of the Legislature of South Australia.

For the Dominion of New Zealand—

The Right Honourable Sir Joseph George Ward, Bart., K.C.M.G., recently Prime Minister of the Dominion.

For the Union of South Africa—

The Honourable Sir David de Villiers Graaff, Bart., Minister of Posts and Telegraphs.

For Newfoundland—

The Honourable Edgar Bowring, Member of the Legislative Council.

His Majesty has also been pleased to approve of the appointment of Mr. W. A. Robinson, of the Colonial Office, to be Secretary to the Commission.

COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE BRANCH OF THE BOARD OF TRADE.

Enquiries of Consular Officers.

The Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade desires to point out to British manufacturers and merchants who may wish to obtain information in regard to trade matters, including the names of importers and of possible agents, in foreign countries, that it is desirable that application should first be made to the Commercial Intelligence Branch, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., before communications are addressed to H.M. Consular officers abroad. By the adoption of this course much delay would be avoided by the enquirer in those cases in which the Intelligence Branch is already in possession of the required information.

Particular attention is drawn to the advisability, when communicating with British Consular officers, of addressing such officers by their official designations, and *not by their names*, in order to avoid possible delay. The adoption of the latter course is liable to involve considerable inconvenience and delay to enquirers, owing to possible changes in the Consular staff.

SOUTHERN NIGERIA TRADE MARKS ORDINANCE, 1910.

With reference to the notice on p. 19 of the "Board of Trade Journal" for the 5th January, 1911, in regard to the above Ordinance, the "Southern Nigeria Government Gazette" for the 31st January, 1912, contains the text of a Bill entitled "An Ordinance to amend the Trade Marks Ordinance, 1910," which proposes to amend Section 47 of the Ordinance of 1910 so as to permit of unregistered trade marks qualifying for protection under that Section on proof of their having been used for three years. Under the existing law proceedings in case of infringement of unregistered marks can only be taken in respect of marks in use before the 30th March, 1901.

The Bill may be seen by persons interested at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C. (C. 1,974.)

BRITISH TRADE ABROAD.

Chile, Antofagasta.—The following information is from the report by the Acting British Consul at Antofagasta (Mr. H. W. W. Bird) on the trade of that district in 1911, which will shortly be issued:—

The prospects of the future of this Province are considered to be very bright. Antofagasta is the only Chilian port as yet connected by railway with Bolivia. It is not dependent on nitrate of soda for its existence, but the opening up of the interior by the Longitudinal and the Antofagasta Railway Companies portends future great prosperity, as nitrate grounds of very great value are gradually being made accessible.

Furthermore, should the proposed line to Salta in Argentina be constructed, the Province will be benefited immensely. It also remains to be seen what effect the opening of the Panamá Canal will have on this coast.

ENCOURAGEMENT OF AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT AND ALLIED INDUSTRIES IN BRAZIL.

Proposed Railway and Road Construction and River Improvement Works.

With reference to the notice on p. 488 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 29th February relative to Pará State Laws for the encouragement of agricultural development and railway construction in that State, H.M. Consul at Pará (Mr. G. A. Pogson) has now forwarded a copy and summary translation of a Federal decree (No. 2,543 A) of 5th January, the chief provisions of which may be summarised as follows:—

Rubber cultivation.—Article 1 provides for the exemption from import duties of all utensils and materials required for the cultivation and extraction of rubber.

Premiums are to be granted (Article 2) in connection with the cultivation of rubber as follows:—2,500 milreis for each 12 hectares of freshly planted rubber, 1,500 milreis for each 12 hectares of freshly planted caucho and *maniçoba*, and 900 milreis for each 12 hectares of freshly planted *mangabeira;* 2,000 milreis for the first 25 hectares of re-planted native rubber, caucho, *maniçoba*, or *mangabeira*, 1,000 milreis for the second and third plot of 25 hectares, and 750 milreis for the fourth plot. These premiums are payable one year after collection of the first harvest. An annual increase of 5 per cent. upon the premiums payable will be conceded to planters who prove that they have at the same time introduced on their estates food products or plants of industrial utility.

The Government will establish (Article 3) at convenient educational places agricultural schools for demonstrating the cultivation of rubber, *maniçoba*, *mangabeira*, &c. These stations will distribute seed gratuitously and give assistance and general information as regards cultivation, &c.

A special premium is to be instituted (Article 4) granting an amount up to 400,000 milreis for the first rubber refining factory; and 100,000 milreis for the first similar factory for the refining of *maniçoba* and *mangabeira* established in the States of Piauhy, Ceara, Rio Grande do Norte, Pernambuco, Bahia, Minas Geraes, and São Paulo. Further, an amount up to 500,000 milreis will be granted to the first factory for the manufacture of rubber articles of commercial use established at Manaos, Pará, Recife, Bahia, or Rio de Janeiro.

Article 12 empowers the Executive to approach the Government of the States of Pará, Amazonas, and Matto Grosso with a view to obtaining a reduction up to 50 per cent. of the export duties on rubber, &c.

Road construction.—Roadways are to be made (Article 6) along the rivers Xingú and Tapajós, and other rivers in the States of Pará and Matto Grosso, and also along the rivers Negro and Branco, and other rivers in the State of Amazonas.

Railway construction.—A railway is to be constructed (Article 6) from a point on the Madeira-Mamoré railway in the neighbourhood of the river Abunan to Villa Thaumaturgo, passing through Villa Rio Branco, with a branch line to the Peruvian frontier towards the valley of the river Purús. The construction is also authorised of a line starting from Pará which will link up the general networks of railways at Pirapora in Minas Geraes, and at Coroata, in Maranham, with branch lines connecting the places terminating the navigation of the rivers Araguaya, Tocantins, Parnahyba, and São Francisco.

Encouragement of Agricultural Development and Allied Industries in Brazil.

Navigation.—Article 6 also provides for the execution of works necessary for carrying on navigation at certain seasons of the year by steam craft, drawing up to three feet, on the river Negro between Santa Isabel and Cucuhy, on the river Branco up to São Joaquim, on the river Purús from Hyutanahan to Senna Madureira, and on the river Acre up to Riosinho das Pedras.

All kinds of river craft will be exempted (Article 7) from import duties of every description. Provision is made for the reduction and amelioration of existing legal provisions governing river traffic.

Favours will also be conceded (Article 8) by the Government to undertakings under public competition for the provision of coaling stations and deposits at places in the valley of the Amazon.

Articles of domestic consumption.—By Article 9 the Government intend to promote and facilitate the creation of centres of production of articles of consumption generally in the valley of the Amazon by means of:—

(1) The establishment of cattle runs, the breeding of stock, the cultivation of cereals, the preparation of jerked beef, the establishment of (*a*) a packing house, (*b*) a manufactory of milk conserves and other dairy produce, (*c*) rice mills, and mills (*d*) for the treatment of cereals, mandioca, &c.

(2) Direct colonisation by the Government of certain States and districts.

(3) Concessions to certain agricultural or breeding undertakings to be established—in the Acre territory, between the river Branco and Xapury; in the State of Amazonas, in the district of the river Autaz; and in Pará, on the island of Marajó or other point on the lower Amazon. These concessions will take the form of (*a*) exemption of import duties on all machinery and materials required for the establishment of the undertakings; (*b*) premiums of 30,000 milreis and of 100,000 milreis per groups of 1,000 hectares artificially prepared and sown with cereals, rice, beans and national foodstuffs, and (*c*) a premium of 100,000 milreis payable on a lot of 500 tons of preserved milk, meat, &c. produced within the first five years.

(4) Exemption of import duties, for a period of 15 years, on all machinery and materials required for the installation and upkeep of an establishment for the salting and preserving of fish from the rivers of Amazonia. A premium of 10,000 milreis per annum will be granted for five consecutive years as soon as the output of the factory reaches 100 tons annually.

Exhibition.—It is the intention of the Government (Article 11) to inaugurate at Rio de Janeiro a triennial exhibition of products dealt with under this decree.

H.M. Consul suggests that British investors proposing to interest themselves in companies formed to obtain concessions under this Law should, after consulting the Law on the subject, first of all put themselves in communication with the British Consulate at Pará.

The full text of the decree (in Portuguese), together with the summary translation, may be seen by British firms at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C. (C. 2,412.)

Milreis = 1s. 4d; Hectare = 2·47 acres.

INSPECTION AND STAMPING OF HABUTAE IN JAPAN.

Adverting to the notice on p. 321 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 9th February, 1911, relative to the examination of habutae for export from Japan, H.M. Commercial Attaché at Yokohama (Mr. E. F. Crowe) has forwarded a copy of a notification by the Japanese Department of Agriculture and Commerce with regard to the inspection and stamping of habutae, the text of which is as follows:—

Habutae is a silk tissue of solely Japanese invention. Its name itself is peculiarly Japanese. Its weaving has been in practice for over a thousand years now, though it was only twenty odd years ago that its sale abroad was tried for the first time. Ever since then, however, the exportation of the fabric has steadily grown in quantity, and it has increased in popularity among its foreign consumers from year to year, until the present time, when its real merits are fully appreciated by them,—the merits of being of pure silk, delicately soft and smooth in texture, and deliciously pleasant to the touch, of embodying the best characteristics of silk, and of washing and wearing well. In view of this, the Japanese Government have adopted the following method of inspecting habutae, with the object of permanently securing its sale abroad.

The practice in Japan of subjecting habutae to an official inspection at the Habutae Inspection Bureau has been in vogue for many years in Fukui, Ishikawa, Fukushima, Yamagata, Toyama, Miyagi and Niigata Prefectures, which are the principal centres of production for the fabric. As these Prefectures, however, differ in their methods of inspection, as well as in those of showing the results of the inspection, considerable inconvenience has been felt abroad by the dealers in the fabric and also by its consumers in knowing the genuineness of the article. In consequence of this, the Imperial Department of Agriculture and Commerce has issued an ordinance and made it compulsory for the Prefectures concerned to carry out a very minute inspection, to ensure accuracy in accordance with methods prescribed by the Department, and to show the results of the inspection in a specified and uniform way. Another ordinance issued at the same time, forbids the erasement, concealment or removal of the testimonial thus recorded before the exportation of the fabric, unless for some good reasons.

In consequence of the above regulation, all the Japanese habutae to be produced during and after October, 1911, will bear a stamp giving accurately its quality, length, width, and weight, in accordance with prescribed forms. An exception, however, is being made of the habutae which is produced in extremely small quantities in the Prefectures which do not carry out the inspection. It should be noted that inasmuch as the use of stamps and other certification marks by individuals or corporate bodies, along with the regular Inspection Bureau stamps, is not prohibited, the article may be expected to bear more than one kind of certification stamp, and it is important, therefore, for dealers and consumers to note the distinctions.

The form and use of the certification stamps, as specified by the Department of Agriculture and Commerce, are as follows:—

1. The certification stamps for habutae, the use of which is authorised by the Japanese authorities, are of different kinds,* the

* The form of the various stamps to be used may be seen by British firms at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C.

Inspection and Stamping of Habutae in Japan.

purpose of each being set forth below. Each stamp shall bear the name of the Inspection Bureau which inspects the article.

2. The habutae which passes the inspection is classified into two grades as Class I. and Class II. according to its quality, and the stamp designating the class is used.

3. An article of inferior quality will bear the Form No. 3 stamp only.

4. All habutae which has passed the inspection shall bear the Form No. 4 stamp, giving its length in yards (omitting all fractions up to ½ yard), width in inches (omitting all fractions up to ½ inch), and weight in momme (1 momme is an equivalent of 3·75 grams. or ·1322 oz.), the figures being those ascertained at the time of the inspection.

5. The habutae which has passed the inspection may be possessed of defects (more or less conspicuous holes or other defects which have occurred during the course of weaving), stains (noted at the time of inspection irrespective of their origin), and joints (a tear of two inches or more, place sewed up, &c.). In such cases, one or another of the Forms No. 5 stamps shall be used according to the nature of the defect, the stamping being in such a manner as to partly overlap the Form No. 1 or the Form No. 2 stamp, as the case may be.

6. When a stamp, or one form or another, is to be cancelled for some good reason, the Form No. 6 stamp is used over the original one, and a stamp of a correct description impressed by its side.

7. Form No. 7 stamp is used only for piece goods which resemble habutae in texture, which receive, however, a treatment different from that for habutae in accordance with the provisions of the habutae inspecting regulations which are made to have a single or double line across in green at a point about 3½ inches from each end, in order to make clear the distinction between this kind of goods and the regular habutae, and which pass inspection on being presented for the purpose.

8. The "inspection" stamp shall be impressed at each end of the goods, or across the two ends so that the two parts of the stamp will tally with each other.

It should be remembered that the Department of Agriculture and Commerce of Japan prohibits the following acts in order that Japanese habutae put on the market shall be of pure silk, and also that the consumer may depend on its purity:—

1. Moistening or wetting habutae for dishonest purposes.

2. Increasing or devising to increase the weight of habutae for dishonest purposes.

3. Concealing, erasing or removing the stamp or stamps impressed on habutae by the Inspection Bureau.

4. Dealing in or exporting habutae which is in violation of any or all of the preceding clauses.

The present regulations apply to *usuginu* (a kind of thin habutae), *shikeginu* (habutae in the weaving of which more or less "doupion" silk enters), *shusu-habutae* (satin-habutae), *dyed habutae*, and *habutae handkerchief*.

The Department of Agriculture and Commerce,
THE IMPERIAL GOVERNMENT OF JAPAN.

(7,198.)

PROPOSED TARIFF CHANGES AND CUSTOMS REGULATIONS.

RUSSIA.

Proposed Tariff Changes.

The Board of Trade are in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of information to the effect that the Russian Government has introduced into the Duma a Bill proposing—

(1) To abrogate the existing Customs duty of 85 copecks per poud gross (5s. 7d. per cwt. gross) on vine cuttings, and on cuttings of "valuable fruit trees such as oranges, mandarins, lemons, and other fruit trees."

(2) To abrogate the existing duty on nitrate of lime and nitro-lime manure.

(3) To reduce the duty on sulphate of ammonia from 82½ to 40 copecks per poud (from 5s. 5d. to 2s. 7½d. per cwt.).

(4) To reduce the duty on raw cocoa from 6 roubles 75 copecks to 4 roubles 50 copecks per poud (from £2 4s. 4d. to £1 9s. 7d. per cwt.).

SWEDEN.

Proposed Reduction of Customs Duty on Oatmeal.

The Board of Trade are in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of information to the effect that a Bill for the reduction of the Customs duty on oatmeal and groats of oats from 6·50 to 3·50 kronor per 100 kilogrammes (from 3s. 8d. to 1s. 11¾d. per cwt.) has been passed by both Chambers of the Swedish Legislature, and now awaits the Royal assent.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Proposed Duty-free Admission of Sugar and Reduction of Duties on Confectionery.

The Board of Trade are in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of copies of a Bill which was introduced in the United States House of Representatives on the 2nd March, proposing to place sugar, tank bottoms, syrups of cane juice, melada, molasses, maple sugar and syrup, refined syrups, glucose, and sugar cane on the free list of the United States Customs Tariff; and to reduce the Customs duty on sugar candy and on all confectionery not specially provided for in the United States Tariff Act of 1909 (*i.e.* confectionery coming under paragraph 219 of the Act of 1909).

A copy of the Bill, together with copies of the majority report from the Committee on Ways and Means in favour of the Bill and of the minority report against it, may be inspected by persons interested at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C.; the Branch will also be prepared to furnish to British traders, in response to written applications, information as to the rates of duty proposed by the Bill in respect of confectionery.

Proposed Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

JAPAN.

Proposed Abolition of Import Duty on Crude Chloride of Potash.

The Board of Trade have received information from H.M. Commercial Attaché at Yokohama to the effect that a Japanese Bill was brought forward on the 1st March providing for the removal of import duty on "chloride of potash, other than refined." The Bill proposes to amend No. 175 of the Tariff, as from the 10th April, 1912, to read as follows (the words in italics being additions to the text of the existing Tariff):—

175.—Potash, *chloride of, and* sulphate of:—

(1) Refined	... ...	20 % *ad valorem.*
(2) All other	... ...	Free.

Chloride of potash at present pays a duty of 20 % *ad valorem* under No. 229 of the Tariff ("Drugs, chemicals, and medicines not otherwise provided for").

Mr. Crowe adds that the Bill was referred to a Committee, which unanimously voted in its favour, and that it will probably pass.

TARIFF CHANGES AND CUSTOMS REGULATIONS.

UNITED KINGDOM.

Regulations respecting Mixing of British and Foreign Wines.

The Board of Trade have received a Circular of the Commissioners of Customs and Excise, dated the 8th March, prescribing certain Regulations which are to be observed in respect of the mixing of British and foreign wines. The Regulations, which came into force on the 1st April, provide that manufacturers for sale of British wines or sweets or made wines, must not:—

(*a*) Mix any British wine with any foreign wine except in the course of manufacture; or

(*b*) In course of manufacture mix with any British wine any foreign wine in any quantity exceeding the proportion of 15 gallons of foreign wine to 100 gallons of British wine; or

(*c*) Mix any spirits with any British wine, except for the sole purpose of fortifying the wine.

Dealers in, or retailers of, foreign wine or British wine, are prohibited by the Regulations from:—

(*a*) Mixing for sale any foreign wine with any British wine; or

(*b*) Selling or exposing for sale any British wine which contains foreign wine in any quantity exceeding the proportion of 15 gallons of foreign wine to 100 gallons of British wine; or

(*c*) Selling or exposing for sale any British wine to which spirits have been added except for the sole purpose of fortifying the wine.

Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

UNITED KINGDOM—*continued.*

Rectifiers or compounders of spirits must not mix any British wine with any spirits, either for the manufacture of British compounds, or for any other purpose.

Dealers in, or retailers of, spirits must not mix any British wine with any spirits, except for the sole purpose of colouring or fining the spirits.

The Regulations also prescribe certain particulars of which manufacturers of British wine are required to keep a record.

British wine manufactured in conformity with these Regulations must not, by reason of the admixture therewith of foreign wine, be sent out or sold or exposed for sale otherwise than under the designation of a British wine.

DOMINION OF CANADA.

Changes in Customs Ports and Outports.

The Board of Trade have received from H.M. Trade Commissioner in Canada copy of a Customs Memorandum (No. 1667 B), dated 29th February last, giving a list of certain changes which have been made in Customs Ports and Outports of the Dominion, as follows:—

New Outports (warehousing ports)—

Elmira, Ont.,	under the Port of	Berlin, Ont.	
St. George, Ont.,	,,	,,	Paris, Ont.
Albert, N.B.	,,	,,	Moncton, N.B.
Reed Deer, Alta.	,,	,,	Calgary, Alta.
Wetaskiwin, Alta.	,,	,,	Edmonton.

New Ports—

Port Mc.Nicoll, Ont.
Highwater, P.Q.
Abbottsford, B.C.

Customs offices closed—

Huntingdon, B.C.,	outport under	New Westminster.	
River Side, N.B.,	,,	,,	Moncton.
River Louison, N.B.,	Preventive Station under	Dalhousie.	

Name changed—

Michipicoten River, Ont., changed to Michipicoten Harbour.

[*Note.*—The above changes take effect from 1st April, 1912.]

The following changes in the Province of Quebec take effect on 1st July, 1912:

The outport of Comins Mill will be closed, and Hall's Stream established as an outport of Customs and warehousing port, under the survey of the Port of Cookshire.

Under Customs Memorandum No. 1,669 B of 9th March last, the Preventive Station at Waterside N.B., under the survey of the Port of Moncton is established as a manifesting and Customs Collecting Station from 1st April, 1912.

Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

Free Importation of Felt Bobs. Amended Date of Operation.

With reference to the notice which appeared on p. 631 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of the 21st March last relative to the free importation into the Commonwealth of "felt bobs" used in connection with machine tools, under Customs By-law No. 207, the Board of Trade have now received a copy of a further By-law (No. 208) stating that the operation of By-law No. 207 is to take effect from 1st December, 1911, instead of 18th January, 1912, as stated therein.

Denaturation of certain Oils. Herring Oil permitted to be used.

The Board of Trade are also in receipt of a copy of Customs By-law (No. 209), dated 10th February, 1912, which provides that in place of the use of commercial cod oil as a denaturant for china, sesame, soya bean and edible vegetable oils, n.e.i., as specified in paragraph 9 of the By-laws Nos. 194 and 195*, the use of an equal quantity of "herring oil" may be permitted.

QUEENSLAND.

Amended Regulations under the "Diseases in Plants Act, 1896."

The Queensland "Government Gazette" of 10th February last contains a Notice, dated 8th February, 1912, giving amended regulations which have been issued by the Queensland Department of Agriculture and Stock under the "Diseases in Plants Act of 1896."

Under these regulations it is provided, *inter alia*, that the importation of plants or portions of plants of every species of Vitis is prohibited, except as regards importations by sea from South Australia of the fruit of such species. Such plants, &c. may, however, be imported at the discretion of the Minister if they have been suitably disinfected, detained and grown in close quarantine.

Trees, plants or portions thereof, other than fruit that are being imported shall be received at a "place of entry" and not elsewhere—*i.e.*, at Brisbane, Cairns and such other place as may be appointed by the Minister.

All imported parcels of trees, plants or any portion thereof, as well as all packages that contain any such articles shall, on their arrival, be distinctly marked with the name of the place where the said trees, &c. have grown, and in the case of such as are being introduced, or are being transmitted through the post office, the nature of their contents shall, in addition, be similarly set forth upon them.

All trees, &c. imported into the State are subject to detention and inspection by some person authorised by the Minister at any of

* For Notice of these By-laws, *see* p. 580 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of the 14th March, 1912.

Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

QUEENSLAND—*continued.*

the places of entry, and subject to such treatment as is prescribed in the regulations.

Fruit which is only slightly diseased may be imported into the State for manufacturing purposes only by *bona fide* fruit preservers, under certain prescribed conditions.

Fees for Inspection of Plants.

The same issue of the "Gazette" also contains a Notice, dated 8th February last, giving the fees payable for inspecting any trees, plants, fruits or vegetables imported from any other Commonwealth State.

Specification of Diseases under the "Diseases in Plants Act, 1896."

A Proclamation of the 8th February is also given in the "Gazette" specifying the diseases which are held to be "diseases" within the meaning of the "Diseases in Plants Act, 1896."

BRITISH GUIANA.

Amendment of certain Customs Management Regulations.

The Board of Trade are in receipt of a copy of an Ordinance (No. 14 of 1911) which amends the Customs Ordinance No. 7 of 1884 relating to the management of the Customs in British Guiana.

The Ordinance provides, *inter alia*, that the master of every ship, whether laden or in ballast, shall, within 24 hours after arrival from parts beyond the seas at any port in the Colony, deliver to the Comptroller or other chief officer of Customs of such port the clearance, if any, of such ship from the last port, and also a list of the passengers on board such ship.

Provision is also made for the observance of other regulations, such as the definition of time of importing goods, making of a report on arrival of ship, taking account of goods to be warehoused, and the power to open and examine goods, &c., whilst a Table is given in a schedule to the Ordinance specifying the goods

(1) which are prohibited to be imported, or
(2) the importation of which is restricted.

The Ordinance also gives specimens of the various Customs Forms which are required to be used in the Colony.

RUSSIA.

Duty Free Re-Importation of Barrels, &c. containing Tar.

The Board of Trade are in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of information to the effect that any kind of packing used for the import of tar from abroad into Russia, upon which duty has once been paid separately in accordance with the special regulations on the subject, shall be re-admitted free of Customs duty on subsequent occasions if still serving the same purpose. In case of such re-admission, however, the tar itself is to pay duty on the *gross* weight.

Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

RUSSIA—*continued.*

Tariff Classification of Sulphurous Iron Pyrites.

The Board of Trade are in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of information to the effect that the Russian Customs Department have given notice that "mattés" of sulphurous iron pyrites containing less than 3 per cent. of copper are to be classed on importation as "iron ore not separately distinguished," but if containing 3 per cent. or more of copper they are to be classed as copper ore, and to pay duty as such.

[Iron ore is dutiable at the rate of $10\frac{1}{2}$ copecks per poud (13s. 9d. per ton); copper ore pays at the rate of $3\frac{3}{4}$ copecks per poud (4s. 11d. per ton) for each one per cent. of copper contained therein.]

SWEDEN.

Alteration of Tare Allowance on Jute Cloth.

The Board of Trade are in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of information to the effect that on the 20th March both Chambers of the Swedish Riksdag passed an addition to the Swedish Customs Regulations providing that, when jute cloth is imported on wooden rollers, the weight of such rollers may be deducted in assessing the weight of the goods.

SPAIN.

Distinction between "Panas" and "Veludillos."

Under No. 303 of the Spanish Customs Tariff "*panas*" of cotton are dutiable at the rate of 2·70 pesetas per kilog.; whilst "*veludillos*" and other plush tissues of cotton (except carpets) pay 4·65 pesetas per kilog. under No. 304.

The Board of Trade have received, through the Foreign Office, information to the effect that the Director-General of the Spanish Customs has stated that "*pana*" is a coarser, heavier article than "*veludillo*"; it is in fact a kind of corduroy, used almost exclusively by the working classes. Speaking generally, "*panas*" are manufactured with two wefts and one warp; whilst "*veludillos*" are manufactured with two warps and one weft. "*Panas*" are also distinguishable by the fact that they have the reverse side napped (*el anverso perchado*).

GREECE.

Packing of Sugar.

With reference to the notice which appeared at pp. 585–6 of the "Board of Trade Journal" for the 14th March respecting a Greek Royal Decree regulating, *inter alia*, the packing of sugar for the Greek market, the Board of Trade are now in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of information to the effect that the Decree referred to has now been modified. The wooden boxes in which sugar for consumption is put on the market must be bound round the ends of two opposite sides of the box with iron bands or wooden hoops, in such a manner as to render impossible the breaking away of any side of the box, either wholly or partially, without the iron band or wooden hoop being cut or broken off.

Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Customs Decisions. The following is the substance of some Decisions affecting the classification of various articles under the United States Tariff Act, which have recently been issued by the Treasury Department at Washington :—

Articles.	Paragraph of the Tariff under which dutiable.	Rate of Duty.
I. DECISIONS OF THE TREASURY DEPARTMENT AND OF THE BOARD OF GENERAL APPRAISERS.		
Velvet or plush ribbons, or other pile fabrics— Paragraph 399 of the Tariff provides for "velvet or plush ribbons, or other pile fabrics not over twelve inches and not less than three-fourths of one inch in width, cut or uncut," at rates of duty varying according to whether silk is present in the pile and selvedge only, or whether it is also found in portions of the fabric other than the pile and selvedge. It is held that this portion of paragraph 399 includes articles with or without a selvedge, and is not confined to those having *both* pile *and* selvedge.	—	—
Silk fabrics.—Count of threads in the warp.—In counting the warp threads of woven fabrics containing more than 60 per cent. by weight of silk, for the purpose of classification under paragraph 399 of the Tariff, *all* the threads in the warp are to be counted, and not only the silk threads.	—	—
Cotton articles.—So-called bath-robe blankets, consisting of pieces of coloured cotton cloth, the raw edges of which have been whipped or bound, said whipping not being necessary to preserve the integrity of the fabric, are dutiable as "articles made from cotton cloth, finished or unfinished," rather than as cotton cloth ... ... [This reverses a decision reported in the "Board of Trade Journal" for the 23rd March, 1911.]	332	45 % *ad val.*
Leather strips.—Leather strips of irregular length and width, cut from belting leather, are in fact belting leather, and dutiable under the *eo nomine* provision for such, rather than as "leather . . . not specially provided for"	451	5 % "
Rockingham ware (provided for in paragraph 92 of the Tariff at the rate of 40 per cent. *ad val.*) is a cheap earthenware, originally manufactured in England, and more recently in the United States, generally, but not always, made of a reddish clay body, which is covered with a brown glaze, the chief colouring ingredient of which is manganese. It is the glaze with which the body of the ware is covered that gives it its distinctive name and character.	—	—
Chrome-tanned cowhide leather for auto-tyres is dutiable as "band, bend, or belting leather," rather than as "leather . . . not specially provided for"	451	5 % *ad val.*
Strips of chrome-tanned leather, bevelled and cut into lengths and shapes suitable for use as automobile treads, are not dutiable as manufactures of leather under paragraph 452 of the Tariff, but are subject to the provisions in paragraph 451 for "band, bend, or belting leather" and "leather cut into . . . forms, suitable for conversion into manufactured articles"	451	15 % "

Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA—*continued.*

Articles.	Paragraph of the Tariff under which dutiable.	Rate of Duty.
2. DECISIONS OF THE UNITED STATES COURT OF CUSTOMS APPEALS.		
Emergency outfit of tools for an automobile.—Leather cases fitted with an assortment of tools, consisting of a screw driver, saw, file, and small blades, for which a single handle suffices when used, are not dutiable under section 452 of the Tariff, as a "travelling set;" but, being adapted and intended for emergencies only, they are dutiable as articles made wholly or in part of metal	199	Dols. cts. 45 % *ad val.*
Pickled capers, dutiable as "pickles"	253	40 % "
Rubber holders for fountain pens composed of the ordinary separable rubber barrel, one part of which screws into the other, with a reservoir for holding ink therein, a feed barrel for conducting the ink to the pen, and a cap to cover the pen when not in use; dutiable not as "penholders," but as manufactures of "hard rubber"	464	35 % "
Coloured glass insulators.—Glass insulators, to the glass of which in the melted state an amber colour has been given by mixing appropriate colouring matter; dutiable as articles of glass, coloured ... [This reverses a decision of the Board of General Appraisers reported in the "Board of Trade Journal" for the 29th June, 1911.]	98	60 % "
Glazing stones.—Flint stones, circular in shape, with the periphery polished, and used for glazing paper; dutiable as wares composed of earthy or mineral substances, not specially provided for ... ... [This reverses a decision of the Board of General Appraisers reported in the "Board of Trade Journal" for the 27th July, 1911.]	95	35 % "
Jute card waste, consisting of the broken fibres of undressed raw jute, rejected by the carding machine in the first process of manufacture to which undressed jute is subjected; to be classed as "jute, not dressed or manufactured in any manner" ... ... [This reverses a decision of the Board of General Appraisers reported in the "Board of Trade Journal" for the 14th September, 1911.]	578	Free
Imitation bronze statuary made of spelter; dutiable as a manufacture of metal, not specially provided for ... ... [*Note.*—It is held that the expression "cast hollow ware" in paragraph 149 covers only wares made of cast iron.]	199	45 % *ad val.*
Pickled herring, also *smoked herring, packed in tins*; dutiable under the provision for "herrings, pickled or salted, smoked or kippered," and not as "fish in tin packages" ... ... [This reverses a decision of the Board of General Appraisers reported in the "Board of Trade Journal" for the 18th May, 1911.]	272	Lb. 0 00½

Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA—*continued.*

Articles.	Paragraph of the Tariff under which dutiable.	Rate of Duty.
2. DECISIONS OF THE UNITED STATES COURT OF CUSTOMS APPEALS—*continued.*		Dols. cts.
Woven cotton cloth coated with an artificial silk flock, the artificial silk constituting the chief value of the article; dutiable as "cotton cloth, coated" ...	321	Sq. yd. 0 03 and 20 % *ad val.*
Rosin.—The well-known translucent, compact, brittle, pulverizable rosin of commerce, imported in barrels, is the product of the ordinary treatment that oleoresin or crude turpentine is subjected to in order to separate its two contents. By the application of heat the turpentine is vaporised passed through a worm, and condensed; the resin content being at the same time run off from the boiler of the still into a vat, but cleansed, in passing through screens, of chips, bark, insects, and dirt, accumulated in taking the turpentine from the tree. These processes have been uniformly held not to advance an article from its crude state; not to advance it either in value or condition as those terms are used and uniformly construed in revenue statutes. They merely serve to get the article by itself. Such rosin is to be classed as "gum resin, crude, not advanced in value or condition"	559	Free
Gum tragasol (a gum extracted from the locust bean), an article in a "crude" state, used in dyeing ...	499	Free

Duties on certain Wood Pulp and Printing Paper Products of Canadian Origin.

A recent Circular of the United States Treasury Department directs Customs officers to assess Customs duties on wood-pulp and printing paper products from wood taken from certain areas in British Columbia and the North-west Territories of Canada, in accordance with the provisions of paragraphs 406 and 409 of the United States Tariff Act. Free entry will, however, continue to be granted, under certain regulations, to paper and paper board valued at not more than 4 cents per lb., and to wood pulp, manufactured from wood cut on *private* lands in the areas mentioned.

A copy of the Circular, indicating the areas referred to, may be inspected by persons interested at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C.

MEXICO.

Temporary Duty-Free Admission of Maize.

With reference to previous notices respecting the temporary duty-free admission of maize into certain States of the Mexican Republic, the Board of Trade are in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of information to the effect that a Presidential Decree was issued on the 8th March, providing that foreign maize may be imported into the Republic free of duty through the Customs houses of Progreso, Isla del Carmen, and Campeche, up to the 30th June next. (C. 2,977.)

Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

BRAZIL.

Exemption from Import Duty of Materials for Cultivation and Extraction of Rubber; River Craft; Machinery, &c. for Meat Packing Establishment, &c.; Rice, &c. Mill Plant; Fish Curing Plant.

See article on pp. 19–20 relative to a Brazilian Decree for the encouragement of agricultural development and allied industries.

CHILE.

Forthcoming Tariff Alterations.

With reference to the notice at p. 427 of the "Board of Trade Journal" for the 22nd February respecting the impending increase of the Chilian Customs duties, the Board of Trade are now in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of copy and translation of the Law imposing the increased duties, which are to come into force on the 15th April.

An additional duty of 5 per cent. *ad valorem* is to be levied on articles which now pay 5, 15, 25, 35 or 60 per cent. *ad valorem*; and a surcharge of 10 per cent. is to be imposed on the specific duties levied under Article 6 of the Tariff Law of the 23rd December, 1897, except on sugar and on wheat flour: this additional duty and surtax are to remain in force for three years. A duty of 5 per cent. *ad valorem* is to be levied *permanently* on goods which are now duty-free under Article 7 of the Tariff Law, with certain exceptions, the principal of which are named below. (This list should be substituted for that given in the "Journal" for the 22nd February):—

Special paper, unsized, for printing; coal; maps or charts, plans, models, drawings, and patterns; fresh fruit; implements (*herramientas*) and spare parts thereof for use in agriculture, mining, arts, trades, and industry, except those specially mentioned in the Tariff Law; yarns and threads for weaving, embroidering, or marking; printed books (other than those dutiable at 35 per cent.), trade catalogues, reviews and other periodical or daily publications; samples of merchandise on which Customs duty would not amount to more than two pesos; coin; gold bullion or gold dust; cotton seed; crude petroleum; ploughshares (*puntas para arados*); copra; wheat; cotton yarns and machinery for cotton factories (the duty-free importation of which until the year 1920 was granted by Law No. 990 of 1898); and other goods which enjoy exemption from duty for determinate periods in virtue of special Laws.

Automobiles are to be included among the articles which in virtue of Article 4 of the Tariff Law are dutiable at the rate of 15 per cent.

The Tariff Law of 1897 and the corresponding Valuation Tariff are to be enforced in the Magallanes Territory from the 15th April in respect of a number of articles, including mineral waters, alcohol, spirit of wine, liqueurs, spirits, sweetened or not; beer; tobacco, cigars, and cigarettes; pickles; fruits, dried or preserved, in syrup or in spirits; cakes and biscuits; flour; maize; barley; peas and beans; condensed milk; vegetables; timber; butter; cheese; hay; potatoes; salt; sole leather, dressed skins, and leather manufactures,

Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

CHILE—*continued.*

except machine belts; vinegar; and wine. The shipment of goods from Punta Arenas to the subordinate ports in the Magallanes territory is prohibited.

The text of the Law and the complete translation may be inspected by British traders interested, at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C.

ARGENTINE REPUBLIC.

Forthcoming Modification of Sugar Duties.

With reference to the notice at p. 80 of the "Board of Trade Journal" for the 11th January respecting a Bill for the modification of the Customs duties on sugar imported into the Argentine, the Board of Trade are now in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of copy and translation of a Law on the subject as passed by the Legislature.

This Law provides that, from the 1st June, 1912, the import duty on refined sugar or sugar of 96 degrees polarisation or over shall be reduced from 9 to 8·8 cents (gold) per kilogramme;* and that from the same date the duty on unrefined sugar or sugar of less than 96 degrees polarisation shall be increased from 6 to 6·8 cents (gold) per kilogramme; the dutiable weight in the case of unrefined sugar including the weight of the bag. Provision is made for the reduction of the duty on both classes of sugar on the 1st June of each succeeding year by $\frac{1}{5}$ cent per kilogramme, until the 1st June, 1921, from which date the duty on refined sugar will be 7 cents per kilogramme and that on unrefined sugar, 5 cents per kilogramme.

The following is a translation of Articles 2, 3, 4, and 5 of the Law:—

Article 2.—Imported sugars which in the country of their origin have received either a direct or indirect bounty shall be surcharged with the equivalent of the full amount of such bounty, no matter what form it may have taken or in what manner it may have been granted.

Article 3.—Immediately and whenever it is proved that the current wholesale price of sugar in bags of the National Refineries exceeds 4·10 pesos (paper currency) per kilogramme in the Buenos Aires Market, the executive shall reduce the Customs duties in force, in order that the quantity of sugar which in such case may have been decided upon beforehand as necessary for home consumption may be imported until the next sugar crop is ready.

Article 4.—The power conferred on the Executive by the foregoing Article shall lapse when the duty arrives at the limit of 7 cents (gold) mentioned above.

Article 5.—In the case provided for by Article 3, the Executive is authorised to regulate the manner in which the necessary amount of sugar for completing the provision for home consumption may be imported, either by means of special permits issued by the Minister of Finance or by some other means. The Executive is authorised to impose fines on those persons who fail to meet their obligation to import sugar into the country within the determined period, such fines not to exceed the third part of the price laid down in Article 3 for each 10 kilogrammes of sugar.

It may be noted that the Law, unlike the Bill referred to in the "Journal" for the 11th January, contains no provision for an excise duty on sugar produced in the Argentine.

* Kilogramme = 2·2046 lbs.; peso (gold) = 100 cents = 4s.

SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT.

RUSSIA.

Deepening of Kertch-Yenikale Channel.

H.M. Consul-General at Odessa (Mr. C. S. Smith) reports that during the year 1913 the Kertch-Yenikale Channel is to be deepened to 28 feet, but that the width of the channel will remain the same, *viz.*, 350 feet. (H. 4,251.)

Navigation in the Gulf of Riga.

With reference to the notice on p. 687 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 28th March relative to danger to navigation in the Gulf of Riga from pack ice, H.M. Consul at Riga (Mr. V. H. C. Bosanquet) telegraphs, under date 30th March, that there is still much ice in the Gulf, and that the icebreakers are working. (H. 4,533.)

SWEDEN.

Re-opening of Navigation at Nyköping.

With reference to the notice on p. 88 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 11th January relative to the closing of navigation at the port of Nyköping on account of ice, H.M. Consul at Stockholm (Mr. H. M. Villiers, M.V.O.) telegraphs that navigation was re-opened on 29th March. (H 4,477.)

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY. RUSSIA. BULGARIA. ROUMANIA.

Freight Rates on the Danube.

H.M. Legation at Sofia report that an attempt by Roumanian, Austrian, and Hungarian steamship companies, owning vessels plying on the Danube, to form a shipping combine to raise freight rates on the river traffic was frustrated by the refusal to join the combine of the Russian steamship company, which is desirous of making Odessa (instead of Galatz and Braila) the principal entrepôt for the Danube traffic. (H. 4,114).

JAPAN.

Freight on Cotton Yarn from Japan to Bombay.

See notice on p. 37.

MINERALS, METALS AND MACHINERY.

CANADA.

Differential Railway Axle Couplers.

The Imperial Trade Correspondent at Toronto (Mr. F. W. Field) reports that a company has been formed, with a capital of 2,000,000 dols. (about £411,000), to manufacture a differential railway axle coupler, which will allow the wheels on each axle to roll independently of each other. Copies of two pamphlets issued by the company may be seen by British firms at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C. (6,759.)

Minerals, Metals and Machinery.

SOUTH AFRICA.

Mineral Output in Transvaal.

The following figures of the output of gold, silver, diamonds, copper ore, tin ore, and coal in the Transvaal in 1910 and 1911 have been extracted from returns issued by the Transvaal Chamber of Mines :—

—	1910.		1911.	
	Fine Ounces.	£	Fine Ounces.	£
Gold	7,533,848	32,001,735	8,237,723	34,991,620
Silver	823,752	88,029	894,343	96,557
	Carats.		Carats.	
Diamonds	2,090,068	1,317,715	1,843,341	1,628,876
	Tons.		Tons.	
Copper ore sold	3,180	77,612*	2,090	51,675*
Tin ore sold	3,383	328,484*	3,546	414,021*
Coal sold	3,970,069	986,253†	4,343,680	1,020,539†

* Estimated value. † Value at pit's mouth.

FRANCE (MADAGASCAR).

Exports of Minerals.

H.M. Consul at Antananarivo (Mr. T. P. Porter) has furnished the following statistics of the exports of minerals from Madagascar during the year 1911, the figures for 1910 being added for purposes of comparison :—

—		1910.	1911
Gold dust	ozs.	104,002	92,022
Graphite	metric tons	545	1,246
Corundum ("corrindons industriels") ...	,,	11	150
Uranite	,,	2¼	29
Rock crystal	,,	28	6
Malachite	,,	1¼	¾
Quartz, opaque...	,,	—	32
,, coloured	,,	—	1

(C. 3,009.)

ROUMANIA.

Petroleum Production.

The "Nachrichten für Handel und Industrie" (Berlin), of 15th March states that a total of 1,404,400 metric tons of petroleum were delivered to Roumanian refineries in 1911, as against 1,215,300 metric tons in 1910, an increase of about 15½ per cent. The yield from petroleum in the refineries last year was as follows :—Benzine, 260,653 metric tons; burning oil, 312,711 metric tons; mineral oil, 24,703 metric tons; and residue, 783,136 metric tons. Nearly half the production was used in Roumania.

Minerals, Metals and Machinery.

CHILE.

The following information is from the report by the Acting British Consul at Antofagasta (Mr. H. W. W. Bird) on the trade of that district in 1911, which will shortly be issued :—

Nitrate Production in Antofagasta District.

There has been an increase in the exportation of nitrate from this province of 3,662,707 Spanish quintals over 1910, the export figures for the last three years being as follows :—

	Quintals.
1909	24,039,896
1910	27,338,340
1911	31,001,047

NOTE.—A Spanish quintal = 101·4 lbs. av.

It is estimated that during the year 1912 there will be a still further increase of some 2,000,000 quintals or more as new "oficinas" now in course of construction will be ready for production.

Careful examination of some of the nitrate fields between Antofagasta and Tocopilla, and between Antofagasta and Taltal have shown them to be very rich indeed in quantity and quality. As it is not possible to deal with the entire production of nitrate at Antofagasta alone, it is probable that part of the output from the former district will find an outlet at Mejillones, while that of the latter will be shipped from the new port of Blanco Encalada, some 60 miles south of Antofagasta. It is proposed to reach Blanco Encalada by an aërial railway, and it is reported that tenders have been invited for the material and construction of the same. As the owners of the grounds are British, it is very probable that the machinery required for the "oficinas" will be purchased in the United Kingdom.

With a view to cheapening the cost of production, several of the nitrate companies intend to give a trial to fuel oil early in 1912, in place of coal. The first contracts have been secured by the Union Oil Company of California, who by the end of the present month (March) expect to have storage room for 18,000 tons. Their present contract is for 6,000 tons monthly, which will replace about 10,000 tons of coal monthly, so that should the use of fuel oil prove as successful as in other parts of the country the decrease in the importation of coal will be very large, as other industries are likely to follow suit in dispensing with coal.

YARNS AND TEXTILES.

CHINA (MANCHURIA).

Bleaching of Wild Silk.

H.M. Consul at Dairen (Mr. H. G. Parlett) reports that experiments in the bleaching of wild silk in Manchuria have failed, as it was found that the process destroyed to a certain extent the strength of the thread, and also caused a shrinkage of about 30 per cent.; moreover there was no sale for the finished article, the natural colour and texture being preferred. (6,913.)

Yarns and Textiles.

JAPAN.

Renewal of Annual Contract between Cotton Spinners and Shipping Combine.

H.M. Commercial Attaché at Yokohama (Mr. E. F. Crowe) reports that the annual contract between the Japanese Cotton Spinners and the Shipping Combine, the continuance of which was doubtful owing to a disagreement (now settled) between two of the principal spinning companies in Japan, has now been renewed for another year at Rs. 8.80 per ton of 40 c. ft. from Bombay to Japanese ports.

Rupee = 1s. 4d. (7,265.)

AGRICULTURAL & FOREST PRODUCTS.

UNITED KINGDOM.

Corn Prices.

The prices of British corn per quarter of 8 bushels, as received from the Inspectors of Corn Returns, in the week ended 30th March, 1912, were as follows:—

Wheat	34s.	4d.
Barley	30s.	3d.
Oats	21s.	8d.

For further particulars see p. 45.

Imports of Agricultural Produce.

A statement is published on p. 46 showing the quantities of the various descriptions of agricultural produce imported into the United Kingdom during the week ended 30th March, 1912, as well as of the imports during the corresponding week of 1911.

Cotton Statistics.

The number of bales of cotton **imported** into the United Kingdom during the week ended 28th March, 1912, was 167,741 (including 302 bales British West Indian, 80 bales British West African, and 2,553 bales British East African), and the number imported during the thirteen weeks ended 28th March was 1,868,160 (including 2,670 bales British West Indian, 347 bales British West African, 9,809 bales British East African, and 442 bales foreign East African). The number of bales **exported** during the week ended 28th March was 11,168, and during the thirteen weeks, 217,157.

For further details see p. 45.

DENMARK.

Grain Crop Results in 1911.

The following statistics of the final returns of the cereal crops in Denmark in 1911, compared with the production in 1910, are taken from the "Bulletin of Agricultural Statistics" (Rome) for March:—

Agricultural and Forest Products.

	Production.	
	1910.	1911.
	Quintals.	Quintals.
Wheat	1,238,187	1,216,157
Rye	5,079,627	5,007 278
Barley	5,198,669	5,013,129
Oats	7,197,998	7,232,941

Quintal = 220·46 lbs.

FRANCE.

Grain Crop Results in 1911.

The "Journal Officiel" of 31st March publishes, on the authority of the Minister of Agriculture, the following final figures relative to the principal French crops in 1911, the figures for 1910 being added for purposes of comparison :—

	1910.			1911.		
	Area.	Production.		Area.	Production.	
	1,000 Hectares.	1,000 Hectolitres	1,000 Metric Quintals.	1,000 Hectares.	1,000 Hectolitres	1,000 Metric Quintals.
Wheat ...	6,554·4	90,834·2	68,845·9	6,436·2	111,161·8	87,811·4
Rye	1,211·7	15,527·9	11,146·8	1,183·2	16,427·1	12,066·3
Barley ...	748·5	15,321·3	9,713·4	769·7	16,724·9	10,819·6
Oats	3,951·3	102,469·0	48,170·7	4,018·8	107,611·8	51,045·1

Hectare = 2·47 acres ; Hectolitre = 2·75 Imperial bushels ; metric quintal = 220·46 lbs.

(X. 2,646.)

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY.

Austrian Grain Crop Results in 1911.

The March issue of the "Bulletin of Agricultural Statistics" (Rome) publishes the following statistics of the area and production of cereal crops in Austria in 1911, as compared with the previous year :—

	Area.		Production.		Yield per Hectare.	
	1910.	1911.	1910.	1911.	1910.	1911.
	Hectares.	Hectares.	Quintals.	Quintals.	Quintals.	Quintals.
Wheat ...	1,213,579	1,215,090	15,673,315	16,026,388	12·9	13·2
Rye	2,060,980	2,021,345	27,671,921	26,446,569	13 4	13·1
Barley ...	1,101,525	1,096,677	14,722 147	16,201,813	13·4	14·8
Oats	1,833,018	1,878,058	20,631,564	22,700,639	11·3	12·1
Maize ...	311,773	302,813	4,416,782	3,041,344	14·2	10·0

Hectare = 2·47 acres ; quintal = 220 46 lbs.

Agricultural and Forest Products.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA (PHILIPPINE ISLANDS).

Forests.

H.M. Consul-General at Manila (Mr. A. E. Wileman) has forwarded a copy of each of two bulletins issued by the Manila Bureau of Forestry on the forests of the Philippines, *viz.*:—Part 1—Forest Types and Products, and Part 2—the Principal Forest Trees.

These bulletins, together with a Forest map of the Islands, may be seen by British firms at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C.

BRAZIL. PERU. BOLIVIA.

Exports of Rubber from the Amazon Basin, *viâ* Pará, in February, 1912.

H.M. Consul at Pará (Mr. G. A. Pogson) reports that the quantity of rubber exported from Pará, Manaos, Iquitos, and Itacoatiara during the month of February, 1911 and 1912, was as follows:—

—	Fine.	Medium.	Coarse.	Caucho.	Total.
February, 1911—	Kilogs.	Kilogs.	Kilogs.	Kilogs.	Kilogs.
To United States ...	*567,733*	*166,018*	*497,134*	*277,173*	*1,508,058*
To Europe	*1,446,073*	*204,577*	*328,736*	*630,518*	*2,609,904*
Total	*2,013,806*	*370,595*	*825,870*	*907,691*	*4,117,962*
February, 1912—					
To United States ...	1,160,596	304,910	775,277	403,481	2,644,264
To Europe	1,463,960	126,335	289,579	614,152	2,494,026
Total	2,624,556	431,245	1,064,856	1,017,633	5,138,290

Kilog. = 2·2046 lbs. (C. 2,836.)

ARGENTINA.

Maize Crop.

The Board of Agriculture and Fisheries have received information from the International Agricultural Institute at Rome to the effect that, according to revised estimates, the production of maize in Argentina in 1911–12 amounted to 147,927,000 cwts.

MISCELLANEOUS.

DENMARK (ICELAND).

Progress of Fishery.

The British Vice-Consul at Reykjavik (Mr. A. Sigurdsson) reports, under date 23rd March, that although the fishing smacks left Faxabay earlier than usual for the fishing grounds, the results up to the present have been very poor and much less than they were at the corresponding date last year. There are now 13 steam trawlers belonging to Iceland, and about the same number have been chartered for the season.

Miscellaneous.

The fishing by motor boats from the Westmann Islands commenced in the beginning of January, which is much earlier than usual. Up to the middle of February the results were good, but since then have become poorer owing in part to a diminution in the quantity of fish. The total quantity landed up to the present is about the same as that up to the corresponding date last year owing to the earlier start and to the increase in the number of boats, *viz.*, 60, as against 50 last year.

At Isafiord the results are better than those of last year, but fishing is being hindered by stormy weather. (7,707.)

GERMANY.

Stamp Tax Regulations.

H.M. Embassy at Berlin have forwarded a copy of regulations regarding the method of payment of stamp duties imposed by the German Imperial Stamp Tax Law of 15th July, 1909 (see "Board of Trade Journal" of 29th July, 1909, p. 235). These regulations, which take effect as from 1st April, 1912, refer to stamp duties on share certificates, contract notes, lottery tickets, bills of lading, passenger tickets, licences for motor vehicles, grants of bonuses, &c. by companies, cheques, transfers of real estate, &c.

The text of the regulations (in German) may be seen by British firms at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C. (C. 2,544.)

JAPAN.

Manufacturing Industries in Osaka.

H.M. Vice-Consul at Osaka (Mr. E. H. Holmes) has forwarded the following particulars relative to the principal manufacturing industries of that city at the end of the year 1910:—

The number of establishments in the city engaged in manufacturing processes was 6,416, employing 39,607 male and 25,003 female workers. The total horse-power of the motive machinery at these factories was 35,590, and the value of the total output for 1910 was £19,570,829, as against £19,806,271 in 1907, the so-called "boom" year of commercial and industrial activity in Japan.

It will be noted, says Mr. Holmes, that the manufacturing output in 1910 fell short of that of 1907 by some £235,000, but it must be remembered that the above figures show only the industry of the city of Osaka itself, without taking into account the numerous factories in the immediate neighbourhood, the number of which, owing to the rising price of land within the city, has increased to a remarkable degree during the last few years. The Vice-Consul adds that if the output of the whole district could be obtained, there is little doubt that the result would considerably surpass that of 1907.

Particulars of the number of establishments, the amount of horse-power of the motive machinery, and the value of the total output, in each industry, may be seen by British firms at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C. (C. 2,766.)

GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS.*

TRADE RETURNS OF THE UNITED KINGDOM.

The monthly Accounts relating to the Trade and Navigation of the United Kingdom for the month of February, 1912, have been published. The accounts, which are issued on the 7th or 8th of each month, may be purchased* at a cost, in the present instance, of 1*s.* 4*d.* per copy.

Attention is further called to the fact that the "Annual Statement of the Trade of the United Kingdom with Foreign Countries and British Possessions" for the year 1910 has been issued, and may be purchased* at a cost of 5*s.* 2*d.* for the first volume, 3*s.* 3*d.* for the second volume, and 3*s.* 1*d.* for the supplement. This publication, which contains much more detailed and exhaustive information than can be given in the Monthly Accounts, gives in the first volume abstract tables for the years 1906–1910, and detailed statements of imports and exports of each article consigned from and to each country; in the second volume details as to Customs revenue, transhipments and articles in bond, with particulars of the trade of the United Kingdom with each foreign country and British Possession, and of the trade at each port of the United Kingdom; and in the supplement a classification on the basis followed in Volumes I. and II. of the "Annual Statement" for 1908 and earlier years.

It may be noted that beginning with the issues for 1909 the figures of Volumes I. and II. relate to the countries of *consignment* for imports, and countries of final destination, so far as known, for exports. A supplementary volume will continue to be issued, in which particulars will be given, as mentioned above, on the same basis as those published (up to the year 1908) in the first two volumes. By this means it will be possible to trace the details of the differences resulting from the change of system for a further limited period.

BOARD OF TRADE LABOUR GAZETTE.

The "Board of Trade Labour Gazette"* is published (price 1*d.*) by the Board of Trade about the 16th of each month. The following are among the more important articles which appear in the March issue:—State of the Labour Market in February; The Coal Trade Dispute; Recent Conciliation and Arbitration Proceedings; Standard Time Rates of Wages; Employment and Output in Coal Mines in 1911; Trade Unions in 1908-10; Statutory Restrictions on Strikes and Lock-outs in the Dominions and Foreign Countries.

COLONIAL OFFICE REPORT.

The following report has been issued by the Colonial Office since the last number of the "Board of Trade Journal":—

No. 711. Leeward Islands, 1910–11.

OTHER GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS.

Statistical Abstract for the Principal and other Foreign Countries in each year from 1899 *to* 1909–10 (*as far as the particulars can be stated*). *Thirty-seventh Number.* [*Cd.* 6,099.] *Price* 1*s.* 11*d.*

This Abstract, which is prepared in the Commercial Department of the Board of Trade, gives particulars regarding trade, navigation, agriculture, railways, telegraph and telephone systems, finance,

* Copies of Government publications may be purchased either directly or through any bookseller, from Wyman & Sons, Ltd., Fetter Lane, London, E.C.; or Oliver & Boyd, Tweeddale Court, Edinburgh; or E. Ponsonby, Ltd., 116, Grafton Street, Dublin.

Government Publications.

mineral production, &c. of foreign countries for a series of years. The present number of the Abstract deals mainly with the years 1899 to 1909–10 inclusive. Among other new matter, particulars are included of the total foreign trade of a number of countries for which this information was not previously given, of principal imports and exports of Costa Rica, and of trade with principal countries of Finland, Cuba, Venezuela, the Philippines and the Netherlands East Indies. A new table is added, showing the number and tonnage of merchant vessels belonging to the various countries of the world in 1909.

Boiler Explosions. Report to the Secretary of the Board of Trade upon the working of the Boiler Explosions Acts, 1882 *and* 1890, *with Appendices. (In continuation of Parliamentary Paper Cd.* 5,730.) [*Cd.* 6,129.] *Price* 2½*d.*

Under the provisions of the Boiler Explosions Acts, 88 preliminary enquiries and 12 formal investigations have been held respecting boiler explosions which occurred during the year ended 30th June, 1911. Of these 100 explosions, 47 resulted in loss of life or personal injury, 13 persons being killed and 61 being injured.

The Appendices attached to this Report give (1) a summary of the reports of enquiries held under the Boiler Explosions Acts; (2) the causes of explosions and the types of boilers which exploded; and (3) a report by the Solicitor to the Board of Trade on the formal investigations held.

Emigration. Report on the Emigrants' Information Office for the year ended 31*st December,* 1911. [*Cd.* 6,088.] *Price* 2½*d.*

During the year 1911, 27,235 written applications were received at the Emigrants' Information Office by, or on behalf of, intending emigrants, as against 22,883 in 1910, an increase of 19 per cent.; the number of personal enquiries in 1911 was 6,077. The total number of enquiries with regard to Canada last year show a decrease of 17·4 per cent. as compared with 1910, and with regard to Australia and New Zealand an increase of 71·5 per cent.

Board of Agriculture and Fisheries. Annual Report of Proceedings under Acts relating to Sea Fisheries for the year 1910. [*Cd.* 6,120.] *Price* 2*s.* 3*d.*

FOREIGN & COLONIAL PUBLICATIONS.

The following is a list of the more important Articles on trade subjects contained in the Foreign and Colonial Publications received and filed for reference at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade during the week ended 30th March, 1912, and which are open to inspection in the Reading Room of the Branch at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C.:—

NEWSPAPERS AND PERIODICALS.

Agricultural, Dairy, and Forest Products.

Milling Industry in North Manchuria.
German Consular Report, February, 1912.

Sugar Production of Norway.
"*Farmand*" (Christiania), 23rd Mar.

Ipecacuanha Production in Colombia.
"*Daily Consular Reports*" (Washington), 2nd Mar.

Rubber Cultivation in Brazil.
"*Handelsberichten*" (The Hague), 21st Mar.

Pepper Cultivation in Netherlands East Indies.
"*Handelsberichten*" (The Hague), 21st Mar.

Manioc Cultivation in West Africa.
"*Dépêche Coloniale*" (Paris), 23rd Mar.

Soya Bean Trade in South Manchuria in 1910-11.
German Consular Report, February, 1912.

Coconuts, Copra and Coconut Oil.
"*Daily Consular Reports*" (Washington), 6th Mar.

Machinery and Engineering.

Hydro-Electric Works proposed for Ontario.
"*Toronto Globe*," 27th Feb. (X 5,835.)

Buildings, proposed erection of, in Ontario.
"*Toronto Globe*," 27th Feb. (X. 5,835.)

Machinery Exports from Germany in January and February.
"*Börsen-Zeitung*" (Berlin), 21st Mar. (X. 1,684.)

Sewerage Purification at Atlanta.
"*Engineering News*" (New York), 14th Mar.

Dam Trenches and their Geology.
"*Engineering News*" (New York), 14th Mar.

Electric Locomotive Design (New).
"*Engineering News*" (New York), 14th Mar.

Distributor (Improved) for Heavy Road Binders.
"*Engineering News*" (New York), 14th Mar.

Synchron Respiration Apparatus.
"*Engineering and Mining Journal*" (New York), 16th Mar.

Motor for Aeroplanes.
"*Iron Age*" (New York), 14th Mar.

Irrigation in Peru.
"*Economista Peruano*," 29th Mar.

Engineering and Contracting in China.
"*Daily Consular Reports*" (Washington), 4th Mar.

Concrete Building Failure.
"*Engineering News*" (New York), 14th Mar.

Metals, Mining and Minerals.

Iron Industry in Italy.
"*Stahl und Eisen*" (Berlin), 21st Mar.

Lignite Production of Bohemia in 1911.
"*Handelsmuseum*" (Vienna), 21st Mar. (X. 1,206.)

German Steel Works Syndicate: Increase in "B" Allotments.
"*Börsen-Zeitung*" (Berlin), 22nd Mar. (X. 5,032.)

Phosphate of Lime Deposits in French Indo-China: Permits.
"*Journal Officiel*" (Hanoi), 12th Feb. (X. 29.)

Coal Production in the Ruhr District (Germany) in 1911.
"*Börsen-Zeitung*" (Berlin), 17th Mar. (X. 5,011.)

U Tube Manufacture.
"*La Métallurgie*" (Paris), 20th Mar.

Electric Galvanisation.
"*La Métallurgie*" (Paris), 20th Mar.

Iron Markets of Sweden.
"*Handelsberichten*" (The Hague), 21st Mar.

Metal Production in the Urals in 1911.
"*Moniteur Officiel du Commerce*" (Paris), 21st Mar.

Sampler for Cyanide Plants.
"*Engineering and Mining Journal*" (New York), 16th Mar.

Smelting Chromiferous Iron Ore.
"*Engineering and Mining Journal*" (New York), 16th Mar.

Blende Roasting.
"*Engineering and Mining Journal*" (New York), 16th Mar.

Roll Crushing of Ores.
"*Iron Age*" (New York), 14th Mar.

Small-sized Fuel in Gas Producers.
"*Iron Age*" (New York), 14th Mar.

Wrought-Iron, Steel and Corrosion.
"*Iron Age*" (New York), 14th Mar.

Foundry Melting and Mixing.
"*Iron Age*" (New York), 14th Mar.

Alunite and its Commercial Availability.
"*Engineering and Mining Journal*" (New York), 16th Mar.

Railways, Shipping and Transport.

Railway Working in South Manchuria in 1910.
German Consular Report, February, 1912.

Railways in Bolivia.
"*Bulletin Commercial*" (Brussels), 23 Mar.

Dry Dock at Ashtabula (Ohio).
"*Engineering News*" (New York), 14th Mar.

Foreign and Colonial Publications.

NEWSPAPERS AND PERIODICALS—*continued.*

Railways, Shipping and Transport—*cont.*

Railway Development in Switzerland.
"*Daily Consular Reports*" (Washington), 2nd Mar.

Textiles and Textile Materials.

Cotton Industry in Austria-Hungary.
"*Handelsmuseum*," 21st Mar.

Textile Industry in Japan.
"*Textil Zeitung*" (Vienna), 25th Mar.

Silk and Velvet Market Report in Germany.
"*Frankfurter Zeitung*," 22nd Mar. (X. 1,308.)

Textile Markets of France.
"*Börsen-Zeitung*" (Berlin), 19th Mar. (X. 5,004.)

Silk Markets, European.
"*Börsen-Zeitung*" (Berlin), 18th Mar. (X. 5,003.)

Spinning and Weaving in the Lower Rhine District.
"*Frankfurter Zeitung*," 21st Mar. (X. 5,044.)

American Textile Markets.
"*Wool and Cotton Reporter*" (Boston), 14th Mar.

Sericulture in Madagascar.
"*Dépêche Coloniale*" (Paris), 19th Mar.

Ready-made Clothing Trade in Europe.
"*Daily Consular Reports*" (Washington), 5th Mar.

Commercial, Financial and Economic.

Germany: Trade in 1910.
Norwegian Consular Report, January, No. 1.

Germany: Labour Market in February.
"*Börsen-Zeitung*" (Berlin), 22nd Mar. (X. 5,038.)

Germany: Chemnitz Chamber of Commerce Report for 1911.
"*Börsen-Zeitung*" (Berlin), 21st Mar. (X. 508.)

Togoland: Exports in 1911.
"*Frankfurter Zeitung*," 19th Mar. (X. 4,226.)

Commercial, Financial and Economic—*continued.*

United States: General Market Conditions.
"*Frankfurter Zeitung*," 17th Mar. (X. 4,742.)

Zanzibar: Imports and Exports in 1910.
German Consular Report, February, 1912.

Roumania: Budget Bill for 1912-13.
"*Monitor Oficial*" (Bucharest), 22nd Mar.

India: Village Industries.
"*Indian Trade Journal*" (Calcutta), 7th Mar.

Urals: Industrial Development.
"*Commercial Gazette*" (St. Petersburg), 20th Mar.

Finland: Trade in 1911.
"*Handelsberichten*" (The Hague), 21st Mar.

Peru: Coastal Colonisation.
"*Economista Peruano*" (Lima), 29th Feb.

Miscellaneous.

Fish By-Products: Market in Spain.
Norwegian Consular Report, 24th Feb. No. 8.

Reinforced Concrete, compared with Ordinary Concrete.
"*Stahl und Eisen*" (Berlin), 21st Mar.

Spirits: Fixing Prices in Germany.
"*Frankfurter Zeitung*," 21st Mar. (X. 4,479.)

Fishing and Fish Preserving at Vigo (Spain) in 1911.
"*Moniteur Officiel du Commerce*" (Paris), 21st Mar.

Hides and Skins; Tanning; and Paint and Colour Trades of Odessa.
"*Moniteur Officiel du Commerce*" (Paris), 21st Mar.

Fisheries of British Columbia.
"*Daily Consular Reports*" (Washington), 6th Mar.

OTHER PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

British India——Forest Bulletins: 6. Oil Value of Madras Sandal Woods; 7. "Lac."

Canada—Resources of Northern Ontario.

Australia—Census Bulletins, 3, 4 and 5—Ages; Population of Counties, &c.; Population of Electoral Divisions, &c.

Germany—
Report of Imperial Bank, Berlin, 1911.
Report for 1910 on the Mining and Metallurgical Industries of Luxemburg (in French).

Italy—
Navigation Returns, 1910. Vol. I. (in Italian).
Annual Trade Returns, 1910. Vol. II. Part I. (in Italian).

Austria-Hungary—Report of Brünn Chamber of Commerce, 1911 (in German).

STATISTICAL TABLES.

Cotton Returns.

Return of the **Number** of **Bales** of **Cotton Imported** and **Exported** at the **Various Ports** of the **United Kingdom** during the week and 13 weeks ended 28th March, 1912 :—

	Week ended 28th March, 1912.	13 Weeks ended 28th March, 1912.	Week ended 28th March, 1912.	13 Weeks ended 28th March, 1912.
	IMPORTS.		EXPORTS.	
	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.
American	141,869	1,552,375	7,545	139,057
Brazilian	2,926	14,227	—	2,004
East Indian	931	11,149	—	2,578
Egyptian	17,115	263,730	3,623	70,721
Miscellaneous	4,900*	26,679†	—	2,797
Total	167,741	1,868,160	11,168	217,157

* Including 302 bales British West Indian, 80 bales British West African, and 2,553 bales British East African.

† Including 2,670 bales British West Indian, 347 bales British West African, 9,809 bales British East African, and 442 bales foreign East African.

NOTE.—Cotton "in transit" or "for transhipment under bond." *if described as such in the ships' reports*, was not included in this return prior to 3rd November, 1911, *but has been included since that date.*

Corn Prices.

Statement showing the **Average Price** of **British Corn**, per quarter of 8 bushels Imperial Measure,* as received from the Inspectors of Corn Returns in the week ended 30th March, 1912, and corresponding weeks of the seven previous years pursuant to the Corn Returns Act, 1882.

	Average Price.		
	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Week ended 30th March, 1912	34 4	30 3	21 8
Corresponding Week in—			
1905	30 9	25 6	17 0
1906	28 7	24 2	18 11
1907	26 9	24 3	18 3
1908	31 3	25 5	17 9
1909	36 5	27 10	18 8
1910	33 0	23 8	18 0
1911	30 3	24 11	17 5

* Section 8 of the Corn Returns Act, 1882, provides that where returns of purchases of British Corn are made to the local Inspector of Corn Returns in any other measure than the Imperial bushel or by weight or by a weighed measure that officer shall convert such returns into the Imperial bushel, and in the case of weight or weighed measure the conversion is to be made at the rate of sixty Imperial pounds for every bushel of wheat, fifty Imperial pounds for every bushel of barley, and thirty-nine Imperial pounds for every bushel of oats.

Imports of Agricultural Produce into the United Kingdom.

Account showing the Quantities of certain kinds of **Agricultural Produce** imported into the **United Kingdom** in the week ended 30th March, 1912, together with the quantities imported in the corresponding week of the previous year.

—		Week ended 30th Mar., 1912.	*Corresponding week in 1911.*
Animals, living :—			
Oxen, bulls, cows, and calves	Number	1,130	*3,221*
Sheep and lambs	"	969	*3,504*
Swine	"	—	—
Horses	"	33	*108*
Fresh meat :—			
Beef (including refrigerated and frozen) ...	Cwts.	156,866	*159,729*
Mutton " " " ...	"	137,029	*79,200*
Pork " " " ...	"	7,627	*8,929*
Meat unenumerated, fresh (including refrigerated and frozen)	"	17,323	*19,089*
Salted or preserved meat :—			
Bacon	Cwts.	102,540	*94 437*
Beef	"	544	*1,297*
Hams	"	17,947	*14,789*
Pork	"	4,508	*3,071*
Meat, unenumerated, salted	"	1,631	*1,954*
Meat, preserved, otherwise than by salting (including tinned and canned)	"	12,926	*15,129*
Dairy produce and substitutes :—			
Butter	Cwts.	74 962	*70 978*
Margarine	"	27,103	*16,072*
Cheese	"	33,782	*26,659*
Milk, fresh, in cans or drums	"	—	—
" cream	"	14	*169*
" condensed	"	26,485	*22,466*
" preserved, other kinds...	"	50	*143*
Eggs	Grt. Hundr.	316,104	*309.898*
Poultry	Value £	14,533	*15,011*
Game	"	5,167	*1,027*
Rabbits, dead (fresh and frozen)	Cwts.	3,881	*5,428*
Lard	"	30,118	*46,946*
Corn, grain, meal and flour :—			
Wheat	Cwts.	1,160.600	*2,015,500*
Wheat-meal and flour...	"	183,700	*168.600*
Barley	"	60,700	*131,100*
Oats	"	420 800	*252 400*
Peas	"	69.243	*36,030*
Beans	"	2.740	*2,410*
Maize or Indian corn	"	366,200	*828,400*
Fruit, raw :—			
Apples	Cwts.	60,639	*23,964*
Apricots and peaches	"	13	*26*
Bananas...	Bunches	137,405	*121,476*
Cherries	Cwts.	—	—
Currants	"	—	—
Gooseberries	"	—	—
Grapes	"	3,252	*1,018*
Lemons	"	9.816	*12,823*
Oranges	"	162,959	*195.614*
Pears	"	1,549	*2,867*
Plums	"	61	*141*
Strawberries	"	—	—
Unenumerated	"	621	*315*
Hay	Tons	667	*2,565*
Straw	"	7	*145*
Moss Litter	"	2,326	*1,097*
Hops	Cwts.	152	*1,285*
Locust beans	"	18,701	*4,045*
Vegetables, raw :—			
Onions	Bushels	228,622	*165,112*
Potatoes...	Cwts.	14,485	*25.626*
Tomatoes	"	36,072	*16,644*
Unenumerated	Value £	10,496	*13,654*
Vegetables, dried...	Cwts.	3,637	*6.341*
" preserved by canning	"	11,049	*5,323*

Confidential Information as to Openings Abroad for British Trade, &c.

The arrangement inaugurated on 1st January, 1907, whereby the names of British firms desirous of receiving confidential information as to opportunities for the extension abroad of those branches of trade in which they are specially interested, and as to other connected matters, are placed on a special Register at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, has met with widespread approval, as evidenced by the steady increase in the number of names so registered. Formerly no charge was made for admission to the Register, the only requirement being subscription to the "Board of Trade Journal." The great increase in the number of names inscribed, and in the amount of information distributed, having rendered it necessary to make a small charge for the service, firms desirous of utilising this source of information are required to pay an annual fee of one guinea to the Accountant General, Board of Trade, Whitehall Gardens, London, S.W., for the service, *including the supply of the "Board of Trade Journal,"* instead of merely subscribing to the "Journal," as previously, through the Government Sale Agents. British firms who wish to have their names registered should apply in writing to the Director, Commercial Intelligence Branch, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., for the necessary form of application.

Admission to the Register and retention upon it will be, as heretofore, at the discretion of the Board of Trade.

The confidential information which is communicated to firms upon the register is received from His Majesty's Consular Officers in Foreign Countries, from His Majesty's Trade Commissioners and the Imperial Trade Correspondents in the British Dominions, and from other sources available to the Commercial Intelligence Branch.

It may be stated that confidential information thus received relates mainly to openings for British trade abroad, and is communicated to firms on the Register in Circular letters. During 1911, 1,091 such Circular letters were prepared, and copies (totalling 142,032) were despatched to firms on the Register interested in the trades to which the Circular letters respectively related, as compared with 1,130 Circular letters and copies totalling 74,203 sent out in 1910.

NOTE.—Apart from the Special Register arrangements referred to above, the Commercial Intelligence Branch is always ready to answer enquiries on specific subjects, as far as possible, in the interests of British trade (see below).

Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade.

The Intelligence Branch of the Commercial Department of the Board of Trade (73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C.) is intended to be a centre at which information on all subjects of commercial interest shall be collected and classified in a form convenient for reference, and at which, so far as the interests of British trade permit, replies shall be given to enquiries by traders on commercial matters. On application being made to it either personally or by letter, the Branch supplies,

COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE BRANCH OF THE BOARD OF TRADE—*cont*

so far as is possible, information with regard to the following subjects, viz.: Commercial Statistics; Matters relating to Foreign and Colonial Tariffs and Customs Regulations; Lists of Firms Abroad engaged in particular lines of business in different localities; Foreign and Colonial Contracts open to Tender; Sources of Supply, Prices, &c., of Trade Products; Forms of Certificates of Origin; Regulations concerning Commercial Travellers, &c., &c.

There is a Sample Room at the offices of the Branch, where, in addition to samples illustrative of reports of H.M. Consuls or of the Correspondents or Special Commissioners of the Board of Trade, specimens of special interest that may be received from India, the Colonies, &c., are exhibited from time to time.

The "Board of Trade Journal" is the principal medium through which intelligence collected by the Commercial Intelligence Branch, and intended for general information, is conveyed to the public. The "Journal" is issued weekly at the price of 3*d.*, the annual rate, inclusive of postage within the United Kingdom, being 15*s.* 2*d.* All applications respecting subscription, or the purchase of single copies, should be addressed in London to Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Ltd., Fetter Lane, E.C.; in Edinburgh to Messrs. Oliver and Boyd, Tweeddale Court; and in Dublin to Messrs. E. Ponsonby, Ltd., 116, Grafton Street.

All communications intended for the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade should be addressed to: *The Director, Commercial Intelligence Branch, Board of Trade,* 73, *Basinghall Street, London, E.C.*

Trade Enquiry Offices of the Self-Governing Dominions.*

Trade Enquiry Offices are maintained in London at the following addresses by the Governments indicated, viz.:—

Dominion of Canada ...	17, Victoria Street, S.W.
	(Branch Office: 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.).
Commonwealth of Australia	72, Victoria Street, S.W.
New South Wales ...	123-5, Cannon Street, E.C.
Victoria	Melbourne Place, Strand, W.C.
Queensland ...	409, West Strand, W.C.
South Australia ...	85, Gracechurch Street, E.C.
Western Australia...	15, Victoria Street, S.W.
Tasmania	5, Victoria Street, S.W.
Dominion of New Zealand	13, Victoria Street, S.W.
Union of South Africa ...	Trades Commissioner, 90, Cannon Street, E.C.

* Trade enquiries in regard to **Rhodesia** may be made at the office of the British South Africa Co., 2, London Wall Buildings, E.C.

NATIONAL INSURANCE ACT, 1911 (PART II.).

Unemployment Insurance (Umpire Regulations).

Regulations made by the Board of Trade under Section 91 of the National Insurance Act, 1911, with respect to decisions by the Umpire on questions whether contributions are payable.

The Board of Trade, in pursuance of section 91 of the National Insurance Act, 1911, hereby make the following regulations :—

1.—(1) If any workman or the employer of any workman desires to obtain a decision by the Umpire appointed under Part II. of the National Insurance Act, 1911 (in these Regulations referred to as the Act), of the question whether contributions under that part of the Act are payable in respect of that workman or of the class of workmen to which that workman belongs, or if the Board of Trade desire to obtain such a decision as respects any workman or any class of workmen, the workman, or the employer, or the Board, as the case may be, may make an application for the purpose by sending or delivering to the Umpire an application in the form* set out in the Schedule to these Regulations.

(2) An application under these Regulations may be made on behalf of any workman or employer by any association of workmen or any association of employers of which he is a member, and may be made on behalf of the Board of Trade by any officer of the Board authorised by the Board in that behalf.

(3) An application may be made to the Umpire at any time for the revision of any decision previously given by him on any application under these Regulations.

Any such application must be made by some person by whom the original application could have been made, and shall contain a statement of any new facts or other grounds on which the applicant claims that the decision ought to be revised.

2. If the Umpire on the consideration of any application under these Regulations is of opinion that the application is frivolous or raises a question which does not admit of reasonable doubt, he shall give his decision on the application forthwith; but if he is not so of opinion, he shall reserve his decision, and, subject as hereinafter provided, give public notice in the "Board of Trade Journal" and in such other manner as he thinks fit of the nature of the application and of the date, not being less than fourteen days after the date of the notice, on or after which he proposes to give his decision on the application :

Provided that where the only question raised in the application is whether any particular workman belongs to a class of workmen with respect to whom it has been decided, or with respect to whom, in the opinion of the Umpire, there is no reasonable doubt that contributions are payable, it shall be sufficient if, in lieu of public notice, notice is given to the workman and his employer and the Board of Trade.

3. If before the date specified in the notice any representations with reference to the application are made in writing to the Umpire

* To be obtained at any Labour Exchange, or from the Board of Trade Central Office for Labour Exchanges and Unemployment Insurance, Queen Anne's Chambers, Westminster, S.W.

National Insurance Act, 1911 *(Part II).—Unemployment Insurance (Umpire Regulations).*

by or on behalf of any workman or employer appearing to him to be interested or the Board of Trade, the Umpire shall take those representations into his consideration, and the Umpire may at any time before the said date require any persons to supply to him such information in writing as he thinks necessary for the purpose of enabling him to give a decision.

All such representations and information shall be open to inspection by any employer or workman appearing to the Umpire to be interested or any persons authorised in that behalf by any such employer or workman or the Board of Trade.

4. Any persons claiming to be interested may apply to the Umpire to be heard by him orally in reference to any application under these Regulations, and the Umpire may, in any case in which he thinks it desirable, require the attendance of any person before him to give oral information on the subject of any application.

5. The Umpire shall give notice of his decision to the applicant and to the Board of Trade, and the Board shall publish the decision in such manner as they think fit.

6. Subject to the provisions of these Regulations, the Umpire may determine his own procedure.

7. Where any question is required to be referred to the Umpire under sub-section (6) of section 101 of the Act, the question shall be referred to the Umpire by means of an application for the purpose made by the Court before whom the proceedings in which the question arises are pending, and in any such case the foregoing provisions of these Regulations shall apply as if the application were an application by a workman or an employer.

8. The Umpire may, with the consent of the Board of Trade, appoint any person to act as Deputy Umpire in the case of the unavoidable absence of the Umpire, and the Board of Trade may in the case of the incapacity of the Umpire appoint any person to act as Deputy Umpire during the incapacity of the Umpire.

9. (1) These Regulations may be cited as the Unemployment Insurance (Umpire) Regulations, 1912.

(2) These Regulations shall come into operation forthwith.

(3) As respects workmen employed by or under the Crown, these Regulations are subject to any Order in Council that may hereafter be made under sub-section (3) of section 107 of the Act.

Signed by order of the Board of Trade this 26th day of March, 1912.

H. LLEWELLYN SMITH,
Secretary to the Board of Trade.

Board of Trade,
Whitehall Gardens,
S.W.